SHONENJUMP MANGA

vol. 9

NISEKOI

False Love

Story and Art by
NAOSHI KOMI

In this volume, Raku and his friends are now second-year students,

and new first-year students join the mix.

It's becoming livelier! How will things shake out by graduation?

I really don't know at this point, but I'm looking forward to finding out!

Naoshi Komi

NAOSHI KOMI was born in Kochi Prefecture, Japan, on March 28, 1986. His first serialized work in *Weekly Shonen Jump* was the series *Double Arts*. His current series, *Nisekoi*, is serialized in *Weekly Shonen Jump*.

NISEKOI:
False Love
VOLUME 9
SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

Story and Art by
NAOSHI KOMI

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
NISEKOI: FALSE LOVE is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains realistic and fantasy violence.

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NISEKOI

False Love

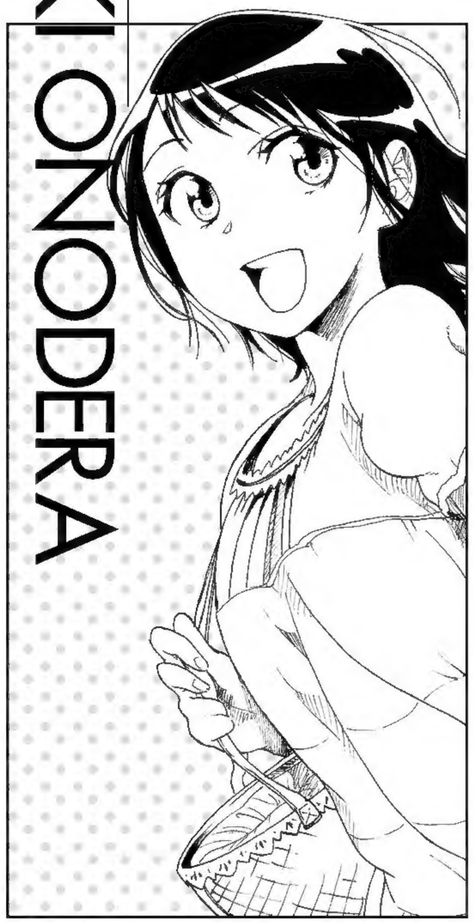
vol. 9: Kamikaze

Story and Art by
NAOSHI KOMI

THE STORY THUS FAR

MARIKA TACHIBANA

Daughter of the chief of police, Marika is Raku's fiancée, according to an agreement made by their fathers—an agreement Marika takes very seriously! Also has a key and remembers making a promise with Raku ten years ago.



KOSAKI ONODERA

A girl Raku has a crush on. Beautiful and sweet, Kosaki has no shortage of admirers. She's a terrible cook but makes food that *looks* amazing.

CHITOGE KIRISAKI

A half-Japanese bombshell with stellar athletic abilities. Short-tempered and violent. Comes from a family of gangsters.

RAKU ICHIJO

A normal teen whose family happens to be yakuza. Cherishes a pendant given to him by a girl he met ten years ago. Has a crush on Kosaki.

SEISHIRO TSUGUMI

Adopted by Claude as a young child and raised as a top-notch assassin, Seishiro is 100% devoted to Chitoge. Often mistaken for a boy, Tsugumi's really a girl.

SHU MAIKO

Raku's best friend. Outgoing and girl-crazy. Always tuned in to the latest gossip at school.

RURI MIYAMOTO

Kosaki's best gal pal. Comes off as aloof, but is actually a devoted and highly intuitive friend.

Raku Ichijo is an ordinary teen...who just happens to come from a family of yakuza! His most treasured item is a pendant he was given ten years ago by a girl whom he promised to meet again one day and marry.

Thanks to family circumstances, Raku is forced into a false relationship with Chitoge, the daughter of a rival gangster, to keep their families from shedding blood. Despite their constant spats, Raku and Chitoge manage to fool everyone. One day, Chitoge discovers an old key, jogging memories of her own first love ten years earlier. Meanwhile, Raku's crush, Kosaki, confesses that she also has a key and made a promise with a boy ten years ago. To complicate matters, Marika Tachibana, a girl who claims to be Raku's fiancée, has a key as well and remembers a promise ten years ago. The mystery keeps getting more complex as Raku and the gang spend time together and grow closer. But what will become of their relationships in the end?

NISEKOI
False Love

vol. 9: Kamikaze

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THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S THE BIG RUNNING EVENT!

OKAY, CLASS! YOU KNOW WHAT DAY IT IS TOMORROW, RIGHT?

I EXPECT YOU ALL TO DO YOUR BEST!

COME ON, YOU ALL KNEW THIS WAS COMING!

FOR REAL?

UGH!

NOOOO!!

CHATTER CHATTER

わいわい YAP YAP I love sports!

REALLY? I THINK IT'LL BE FUN.

HOPE IT GETS RAINED OUT.

ガヤ ガヤ

GUESS THIS IS REALLY HAPPENING.

YOU DO? WELL, YOU'RE AMAZING.

HERE'S AN IDEA!

OKAY.

ピコーン TING

WE DON'T EVEN GET PRIZES?

WHAT A DRAG!

YOU BOYS ESPE-CIALLY!

WHAT KIND OF ATTITUDE IS THAT?

ガヤ MOAN ガヤ MOAN

わい WHINE わい WHINE

OH, FOR CRYING OUT LOUD...

...GETS TO KISS THE GIRL OF HIS CHOICE!

THE WINNER OF THE BOYS' RACE...

ニヘラッ♡
GRIN

WHAAAAT ?!

YEAH!!

Chapter 72: Race Day

IT'S THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME!!

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?!

WE'VE GOTTA MAKE THE MOST OF THIS!!

TEACHER!

ガタッ CLATTER

キャー YAP

OH, COME ON.

JUST A PECK ON THE CHEEK!

キャー YAP

キャー YAP

AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A TEACHER?!

No fair!!

Ms. Kyoko, that's really cruel!!

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!!

I think I may vomit! ♡

Oh my! ♡

NO WAY, DUDE. TACHIBANA!

What?!

I'D CHOOSE TSUGUMI!

AIEEE!!

KIRISAKI, NO QUESTION!

ME?

WHO'LL YOU PICK IF YOU WIN?

NAW, MAN. I'M GOING FOR ONODERA!

I'D GO FOR MORITA.

Huh?!

No, I'd go for...

I'd choose...

DO YOU GUYS HAVE NO SHAME?

FOR PETE'S SAKE— WHAT'S THE TEACHER THINKING?!

おい YAMMER

YAMMER おい

YAMMER おい

WHAAAT ?!

Huh?!

WHA...

What ?!

AAAUGH !!

THERE'S A CHANCE THEY'LL CHOOSE HER!

IN OTHER WORDS, IF ONE OF THOSE DUDES WINS...

COME TO THINK OF IT, SHU SAID LOTS OF GUYS HAVE THE HOTS FOR ONODERA.

わい YAP

YAP わい

WHO SAID THAT?

Tee hee hee!

I CAN'T LET ANY OF THE OTHER GUYS WIN!

I'VE GOTTA PROTECT ONODERA'S PRISTINE LIPS!

RRRMMBBB

ゴゴゴゴゴ

I'VE GOTTA WIN THIS!

WHAP

ギ

...

...

NO WAY.

YEAH.

TOTALLY.

ARE YOU THINKING WHAT I'M THINKING?

HEY, GUYS...

うぉおおおぉおお

AAAAAAAH!!

!?

...WE CAN'T LET RAKU ICHIJO WIN!

くっ

RAWR!

わっ!!

NO MATTER WHAT...

HMMM...

う～～～む...

BUT, UH, HOW DO WE DO THAT?

Heh!

WE CAN'T LET HIM HAVE THIS!

THAT LUCKY DOG GETS ALL THE BREAKS!

HE'S ALWAYS SURROUNDED BY THE HOTTEST GIRLS IN OUR GRADE!

NOT ONLY IS HE DATING KIRISAKI...

YEAH!

HEAR, HEAR!

THE NEXT DAY.

THE BIG RACE.

YOU'RE ONE TO TALK!

PLENTY OF GUYS MIGHT PICK YOU, YOU KNOW!

POKE ぷにっ!

HUH?!

YOU HAVE TO BE KIDDING!

SHE'S RIGHT! YOU'RE A TOTAL HOTTIE, TSUGUMI!

YOU'VE GOT LOTS OF FANS, THAT'S FOR SURE, MISTRESS!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING.

WHAT IF THE WINNER CHOOSES ME?

SOME OF THE GIRLS ACTUALLY SEEM STOKED...

-CHATTER-

キャッ

WHO DO YOU WANT TO PICK YOU?

It's just a peck on the cheek, right?

OH, I DON'T KNOW...

CHATTER

キャッ

WHAT'LL YOU DO IF SOMEONE PICKS YOU?

WE'LL FIGURE OUT A WAY TO PLAY IT OFF!..

IF RAKU WINS, HE'LL HAVE TO CHOOSE ME.

RIGHT...

Then again, what are the odds of that?

...AND EVERY-THING WILL BE FINE.

IF RAKU ICHIJO WINS, HE'LL PICK YOU...

DON'T WORRY, MISTRESS.

HUH?

C'MON, BABY. ♡

ブッ

SMAAAK

チュ♡

MY CHEEK? DON'T BE SILLY...

WELL, LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH.

GIVE ME YOUR CHEEK...

KOFF

コホン...

BUT WHAT IF WE REALLY HAVE TO KISS?

FIRST PLACE... RAKU ICHIJO!

HIP HIP HOORAY!

?!

AIEEE!!

THE BOYS' RACE WILL BEGIN MOMENTARILY!

BOYS, TAKE YOUR PLACES!

N-NOTHING!

I-I'M FINE, REALLY!

What on Earth...??

WHA...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, MISTRESS?!

OH, RAKU DEAR-EST!

ぐっ STRETCH

ぐっ STRETCH

HERE GOES NOTHING!

I'M USUALLY ABOUT AVERAGE...

BUT TODAY, I'LL SHOW THEM!

HEY, TACHI-BANA. WHAT'RE YOU UP TO?

THE TEACHER ASKED ME TO PASS OUT DRINKS.

OH, THANKS ...

I WANT YOU TO WIN TODAY, NO MATTER WHAT!

This drink's kinda scary, though.

WOW, THANKS!

AND MY FAMILY'S SECRET ENERGY DRINK!

LEMON SLICES SOAKED IN HONEY, TO GIVE YOU ENERGY ...

HUH?

THIS HERE! IS FOR YOU, RAKU DEAREST! ♡

HEY, RAKU!

キャッ YAP

キャッ YAP

WELL, I CAN'T MAKE ANY PROMISES.

...

THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT, THOUGH.

I'll be waiting!

I DO HOPE YOU'LL PICK ME WHEN YOU WIN!

DUDE, THERE'S NO WAY THAT'S FOR REAL.

WHAT, DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE TAKING THAT KISS STUFF SERIOUSLY, ARE YOU?

WELL,

DEFI-NITELY NOT WORTH BUSTING OUR BUTTS OVER.

YEAH. WHAT A JOKE!

WANNA RUN WITH US TODAY, ICHIJO?

TOO BAD IT DIDN'T RAIN, *HUH?*

HUH?

TMP ゾロ TMP ゾロ..

ON YOUR MARKS, GENTLEMEN!

GET SET...

...I'LL LOOK LIKE A FOOL IF I GO ALL OUT.

IF NOBODY ELSE IS EVEN TRYING...

#"ㄱ CHATTER CHATTER #"ㄱ..

Class 1-C boys, gather round!

I GUESS EVERY-ONE'S OVER IT.

OH.

VSHOO

GO!

GAH! YOU TRICKED ME, YOU RATS!

WE DON'T CARE WHO WINS, AS LONG AS IT'S NOT YOU!

BWA HA HA HA! GO, EVERYBODY! EAT DUST, ICHIJO!

VOOOSH

WH...

WHAAT ?!

...

Raku Dearest !!

I SAW THE GUY WHO SAID YOUR NAME.

YEAH, RIGHT! I MUST'VE BEEN HEARING THINGS YESTER-DAY.

WHAT ?!

Puh-lease!

SOME-ONE MIGHT PICK YOU TO KISS, Y'KNOW.

AREN'T YOU NERVOUS ?

THE BOYS' RACE MUST HAVE STARTED BY NOW.

WONDER WHO'LL WIN?

ICHIJO.

WHO WAS IT??

YOU DID?!

I SURE HOPE...

...ICHIJO WINS.

...I MEANT IT ABOUT KOSAKI GETTING PICKED.

STILL ...

BUT I HAD YOU THERE FOR A MINUTE.

JUST KIDDING.

RURI, YOU JERK !!

FOR REAL?

OH!
UH, KIRI-SAKI?
OH, HONESTLY...
Where you going?
SHOOP
HA...!
IS THAT THE BEST HE CAN DO?!
THAT MORON!
VSHOO
?!
NOW!
OPERATION "RAKU BLOCKADE"!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY ALL CON-SPIRED AGAINST ME!
STILL, IT'S NOT TOO LATE...
RATS! THEY TRICKED ME!
SHOOF
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
HUH?!

MWA HA HA HA!

...!!

I SMELL A RAT!

A MANEU-VER THIS COOR-DINATED, THIS DIABOLICAL ...

THEY'RE BLOCKING ME ON ALL SIDES!

I CAN'T GET THROUGH!

FRONT RUNNER CREW

FIRST, EVERYONE EXECUTES A STRONG START AND LEAVES RAKUIN THE DUST. THEN, THE BLOCKADE UNIT FENCES HIM IN.

BLOCKADE UNIT

MEANWHILE, I RACE FOR THE FINISH LINE, SUPPORTED BY THE FRONT RUNNER CREW!

WELL DONE!

MWJA HA HA!

EVERY-THING'S GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN, COM-MANDER!

NOBODY HATCHES EVIL PLOTS LIKE YOU, COMMANDER!

IN THE NAME OF SOLIDARITY, I CROSS THE FINISH LINE ON THE GROUP'S BEHALF, AND WE DRAW STRAWS FOR THE KISS!

キラーン GLEAM

THE PERFECT PLOT!

カヤ
KA-

-CHAK

GAH!

I CAN'T LOSE THIS TODAY!

BECAUSE THIS IS MORE FUN, OF COURSE!

WHY, YOU ASK?

YESTER-DAY'S FRIEND IS TODAY'S ENEMY!

I'M NOT ON YOUR SIDE TODAY, PAL!

AIEE!!

HRFF?

BLAM

YOUCH!

?!

BLAM

BLAM

THE RAKU BLOCKADE HAS BEEN COMPRO-MISED!

COM-MANDER!

WHAT?

NOW'S MY CHANCE!

VOOSH

バッ!!

パパパパーン!!

AAUGH!

YEOUCH!

BA-BA-BLAM

ビシ!!
VSHOO

ZOOSH
キュン!!

WHAT'S THIS?!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

キラーン
GLINT

SO SOON?

IMPOS-SIBLE.

KCHAK
ガシャ!!

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN!

AHA!

KA-CHIK

TO PROTECT MY MISTRESS'S PRECIOUS LIPS...

FOR ONCE, I'M ON YOUR SIDE, RAKU ICHIJO.

WELL DONE, ICHIJO! WHICH GIRL DO YOU CHOOSE TO KISS?

LET'S SEE...

わー CHATTER

FIRST PLACE IN THE BOYS' RACE...

...GOES TO RAKU ICHIJO!

わー CHATTER

AND THEN...

IF YOU WIN, YOU'LL PICK MY MISTRESS.

..I NEED YOU TO WIN THIS RACE!

BLAM

BLAM

W-WAIT! W-WAIT!

AIEE!!

I WANT YOU.

WAIT A SEC, YOU SCUM-BAG! YOU WERE SUP-POSED TO CHOOSE MY MIS-TRESS!

WHAT? Y-YOU CAN'T...

WHAT?!

I CHOOSE TSUGUMI.

OH! CONGRATU-LATIONS, TSUGUMI!

FWEE!

VOOSH!

HUH?

KA-BLAM!

HUH?

AWE-SOME! I COULD HARDLY ASK FOR A STRONGER ALLY!

SHE WANTS ME TO WIN FOR CHITOGE'S SAKE.

I GET IT.

MAYBE I DO STAND A CHANCE!

WAS SHE THE ONE WHO RESCUED ME BACK THERE?

COULD IT BE... TSUGUMI?

SHHHH

Wonder why she just shot at me...

IT FELT LIKE SOME-THING ALMOST CLIPPED MY NOSE!

YIKES! WHAT WAS THAT?

A BULLET ?!

HMM?

WHAT'S THAT?

WITH HIS RUN-OF-THE-MILL ATHLETIC PROWESS, HE STANDS NO CHANCE!

I HAVE PLENTY OF TRICKS IN STORE FOR OUR LUCKY FRIEND.

THE RAKU BLOCKADE HAS FALLEN!

NOW WHAT, COM-MANDER?

HA HA! NEVER FEAR!

OH, COME ON. YOU REALLY EXPECT ME TO FALL FOR SUCH AN OBVIOUS TRAP?

A TRAP?

HOW DUMB DO YOU THINK I AM?

GIMME A BREAK!

SHOOP

KICK!!

KA-

ガコ…
WORMP

YOINK

ANOTHER TRAP RIGHT AFTER THE FIRST?!

WHAAT ?!

GAH! THAT CON-NIVING LITTLE...

WHEN I GET MY HANDS ON HIM...

-WUMPH

サァ…!!

IIOH!!

SHF
ズル…

GARBAGE

<3ん!
FLOOP

WHUD

ハオ…!!

TMP

!!

...

YOU OKAY?

YEP. EVERY LAST ONE.

YOU REALLY THINK HE'S DUMB ENOUGH TO FALL FOR THOSE TRAPS?

えっほ HAA HAA

HAA HAA えっほ

中華料理 やすはら

LAST PLACE ONCE AGAIN.

えっほ HA HA

HA-HA パシャ

HO HO パシャ

HA HA HEH HEH やパシャす えっほ し

Hee hee

Tee hee

Hee hee

10:00~

IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, THEN SO BE IT!

フワ... FWAP

OKAY... SO THAT'S HOW IT IS!

ビク TWITCH

HA HA HA HA HA!

HA HA...

!!

HA...

ゴゴゴ

RRRRRMMBBB

I'LL SHOW YOU ALL— AND WIN FIRST PLACE!

YOU ARE NO LONGER MY CLASS-MATES!

RRMBBB

WHAT'S TAKING ICHIJO SO LONG?

WATER

Tachibana's Legendary
Vitality Tonic

☆ Recipe ☆

- Lemon
- Honey
- Garlic
- Sweet Potato
- Blackened Lizard
- Surströmming
- Trinidad Scorpion
  Butch T Pepper

Etc...

Chapter 73: Indirect

WOOMPH

SERVES HIM RIGHT!

TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK

THERE'S NO WAY ICHIJO WILL GET FIRST PLACE NOW!

HEH HEH HEH!

EH

NO WAY, DUDE! KIRISAKI'S MINE!

ME? TACHIBANA, FOR SURE!

I'M CHOOSING KIRISAKI!

TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK

HEH HEH HEH HEH

HEY... IF YOU WIN THE KISS PASS, WHO ARE YOU GONNA CHOOSE?

TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK

WHAT WAS THAT?

HUH?

VOOOSH

YOU'RE WASTING YOUR ENERGY, PAL...

STILL DETER-MINED TO WIN, HUH?

IS THAT SO?

...THAT ICHIJO'S BACK ON TRACK AND IS COMING THIS WAY AT AN ALARMING PACE!

I'VE JUST RE-CEIVED WORD ...

THAT MIGHT HAVE WORKED ONCE...

DON'T LET HIM PASS YOU!

TRAP HIM!

DEPLOY THE "RAKU BLOCKADE" ONCE MORE!!

TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK

やぁぁぁぁぁぁ
AAAUGH!!

KA-SLAM

BUT IT WON'T WORK AGAIN !!

RAKU ICHIJO ...

...HAS SMASHED THROUGH THE RAKU BLOCK-ADE!

WHAT?!

SINCE WHEN IS HE THAT STRONG ??

AIIEEE!!

I'LL WIN THIS THING IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!!

HAHH HAHH HAHH HAHH

IF THAT'S HOW YOU WANT IT, THEN SO BE IT!

...WITH YOUR DIRTY TRICKS!!

I'VE HAD IT UP TO HERE...

Atta boy!

NOT BAD!!

WOW!

HAHH HAHH HAHH HAHH

SHOOP

WHA...

NOW WHAT, MAIKO?!

I DIDN'T WANT IT TO COME TO THIS...

...BUT WE HAVE NO CHOICE.

MWA HA HA HA

HEH HEH HEH

WHAT ?!

OPERATION FOOT SNAG IS AN UNDERHANDED MANEUVER IN WHICH THE THREE SOCCER PLAYERS IN OUR CLASS TRIP RAKU, POTENTIALLY EVEN INJURING HIM!

MOVING INTO PHASE 2!

INITIATE OPERATION FOOT SNAG!!

?!

SALE 50% OFF

NOT THIS TIME, MAN!

ヒョヒョヒョイヒョイ

SHOOP VWHSH FWSH WHPP

ヒョイヒョーイ

WHSH FWHP SHOOMP

ALWAYS THE LADIES' MAN, HUH? BUT NOT THIS TIME!!

NOT SO FAST, ICHIJO!

HAD ENOUGH?

YOU CAN ALWAYS DROP OUT NOW!!

MWA HA HA HA HA!!

You jerks!!

THEY WERE OVER-COME BY SUDDEN STOMACH PAINS!

YAMADA, YAMANAKA AND YAMASHIRO OF THE SOCCER TEAM HAVE ALL DROPPED OUT!

OH!

...?!

BLLRRGGGH

Tee-hee ♥

?

What's going on?

Oogh

AREN'T YOU GLAD WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY?

SEE?

YOU CALLED IT, DUDE!

WOW.

THE OTHER GUYS WHO TOOK THE DRINKS TACHIBANA PASSED OUT HAVE BEEN DROPPING LIKE FLIES TOO!!

HEH タッ HEH タッ HEH タッ

BOYS' RACE COURSE THIS WAY

WHEN ICHIJO FOL-LOWS THESE BOGUS SIGNS... HEH HEH HEH!

...HE'LL GO OFF COURSE AND BE DIS-QUALIFIED!

BUT WE'VE GOT MORE FOR THEM!

NOT BAD... GOTTA HAND IT TO THE OTHER CAMP!

TAK タッ TAK タッ TAK タッ TAK タッ

INITIATE OPERA-TION BOGUS SIGNAGE!

...THAT YAMAZAKI AND YAMAOKA HAVE DISAPPEARED!

I'M GETTING WORD...

SOUNDS LIKE THEY WANDERED OFF COURSE!

WHAT?!

WELL, I'LL BE...

Sounds like the work of Ruri!

OKAY...WE'LL SET UP OUR TRICKS OVER THERE!

OH! WE'RE SUPPOSED TO MAKE A RIGHT HERE?

BONYARI HIGH SCHOOL

BOYS' RACE COURSE

Coffee Ro

RAKU'S ULTRA-AVERAGE AT EVERYTHING. YOU REALLY THINK HE CAN CATCH UP AFTER ALL THOSE SETBACKS?

THINK ABOUT IT.

DASH

DASH

HOW SO?

HEH HEH HEH! FEAR NOT!

THE RACE IS ALREADY WON!

ALL OUR STRATEGIES ARE FAILING!

NOW WHAT, MAIKO?

WATER... WATER...

THANK HEAVENS...

WORMP

WORMP

OH!

RATS... I RAN TOO HARD IN THE FIRST HALF. MY LEGS CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE...

OH! A WATER STATION?

WHEEZ

HE'S RUNNING OUT OF ENERGY RIGHT NOW.

THE RACE WAS OURS AS SOON AS HE FELL FOR THOSE TRAPS!

WHEEZ ぜー...

HANG IN THERE, ICHIJO!

I'M ROOTING FOR YOU!!

Have some water!

LEAVE IT TO ME, ONODERA!

SWISH

Wow!!

KA-VOOSH

TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK

ドドド

IS THAT ALL YOU CAN SAY?!

YOU'RE WAY ACTUALLY TO CATCHING GO, UP TO RAKU! US!!

WHAT?!

ICHIJO IS COMING UP FROM BEHIND AT AN INCREDIBLE PACE!

COM-MANDER!

TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK

OUR FINAL TRUMP CARD!!

...BUT WE HAVE NO CHOICE.

WELL, I HATE TO DO IT...

ME-

-OW

RESCUE US

TARGET HAS SLOWED DOWN CONSIDER-ABLY!

VICTORY IS OURS!

Yeeowch!

SHU, YOU DIRTY RAT!!

WHAT KIND OF HEARTLESS PERSON ABANDONS THESE CUTE LITTLE THINGS?!

BUT YOU'RE NOT EVEN OUT OF BREATH !!

Amazing !!

CHI-TOGE ?!

I'VE BEEN RUNNING WITH YOU THE WHOLE TIME.

YOU DIDN'T NOTICE, HUH?

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE??

WHAT'RE YOU DOING, STUPID BEAN SPROUT ?!

HUH ?!

WHAT ?!

OH, FOR PETE'S SAKE!!

THE INSTANT THEY SAW YOU THEY STARTED TREMBLING AND CLINGING TO ME...

I CAN'T!

Here!

I'll look after them for you.

HAND OVER THOSE CATS!

NEVER MIND ME!

GET BACK IN THERE AND WIN THIS THING!

YOU'VE COME THIS FAR...

THEY CALMED DOWN!!

RESCUE US

C'MERE, KITTIES!!

...I'm doing it for Onodera...

I can't tell her...

HUH?!

THAT'S NOT IT!!

DO YOU REALLY WANT THE KISS PASS THAT BADLY?

YOU SEEM TO BE TRYING AWFULLY HARD.

...

BY THE WAY ...

ULP!!

REAL-LY?

WELL, AREN'T YOU CHIVAL-ROUS!

...WE CAN FAKE THE KISS THING AND NOBODY HAS TO KISS SOMEONE THEY DON'T WANT TO.

IF I COME IN FIRST AND PICK YOU...

I REALLY THINK WHAT THE TEACHER'S DOING ISN'T FAIR TO THE GIRLS.

IT'S JUST THAT...

HUH?

...

LIKE ME?

I MEAN, YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO KISS SOMEONE YOU DON'T HAVE FEELINGS FOR, RIGHT?

WAIT A SEC...

HUH?

OH...

GET GOING ALREADY, FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!!

WHAT WAS THAT FOR?!

That really hurt!!

OWCH!

KA-BASH

THAT DUMMY!!

HONESTLY...

SHEESH!

RESCUE US

LEAVE HIM TO US!

YOU GO ON AHEAD! MAIKO!

SHOOP

SHOOP

HE'S CATCHING UP!!

IT'S ICHIJO!! HE'S COMING!!

AAAUGH

GLEAM キラーン

OH, RIGHT!

WE'RE BACK TO SEISHIRO'S SNIPER SPOT.

The race is almost over..

AIEE!!

KA-BLAM

TOK ビスッ

TOK ビス...

?!

WELL DONE, BEST BUDDY!

I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT! I HAD TOTAL FAITH IN YOU!

YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE, DUDE...

GLEAM

YOU DIRTY LITTLE ...

I'VE FINALLY CAUGHT UP TO YOU!!

SHU!

WHY, RAKU! LONG TIME NO SEE! ♡

HA!

YOU'RE ON!

NO MORE TRICKS! IT'S MANO A MANO NOW, MY FRIEND!

MAY THE BEST MAN WIN!

STILL ...

A RACE IS A RACE!

I'M GENUINELY IMPRESSED!

OH, COME NOW!

Yeah, yeah.

YOU LOW-DOWN CHEAT!!

GO!

ONE...

I'LL COUNT OFF.

ON THREE, OKAY?

CLENCH!!

THEY'RE VYING FOR THE LEAD!

WAIT UP, YOU JERK!!

MAIKO'S IN THE LEAD!

ICHIJO'S COMING IN BEHIND HIM!

THEY'RE BACK!

OH!

TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK—TAK

ドドド

C'MON ...

DARLING !!

RAKU ICHIJO!

RAKU DEAR-EST!!

Gasp!

...ICHIJO!

GO FOR IT...

SHOONK

R"""!!

RAKU ICHIJO TAKES FIRST PLACE!!

SHU MAIKO TAKES SECOND!!

WE HAVE A WINNER!!

わぁぁぁ YAAAAAY ぁぁぁぁ

Raku Dear-est!

Congratu-lations!

He did it!!

I DID IT!!

Whatever.

He won!

That was really something!!

TOO BAD...

THERE GOES THE KISS PASS.

YAAAAAAY
あぁあぁあぁ...

あぁあぁあぁあぁあぁあぁ...
YAAAAAAY

I LOSE.

PHEW.

OF COURSE! It's the grand prize!

YOU ACTUALLY MADE A KISS PASS?

YOU WIN THE COVETED KISS PASS.

Kiss Pass

HERE!

ポン FWAP !!

CHAT-TER キャー

KIRISAKI, RIGHT?

OR SOMEONE ELSE?

CHAT-TER キャー

YOU'LL CHOOSE ME, WON'T YOU, RAKU DEAR-EST?

CHATTER キャー

OH... I, UH...

CHAT-TER キャー

SO? WHO'RE YOU GOING TO CHOOSE?

CALM DOWN NOW, EVERY-ONE.

I'M AFRAID YOU KIDS HAVE THE WRONG IDEA.

AHEM, AHEM!

KOFF

NOBODY EVER SAID YOU COULD CHOOSE ANY GIRL *IN OUR CLASS.*

SCHOOL PETS ♡

HERE YOU ARE, ICHIJO!

I KNEW THERE HAD TO BE A CATCH!

SQUAWK ギャー

SQUAWK ギャー

SHIVER ズ～ン

SQUAWK ギャー

SQUAWK ギャー

CHOOSE ANY GIRL YOU LIKE!

Have a drink.

Thanks.

YEAH...

RE-LIEVED?

LOOKS LIKE NOBODY'LL BE FORCED TO KISS ANYONE!

It's not my fault you all jumped to conclusions!

SORRY, BUT THAT WAS THE DEAL THE ENTIRE TIME!

NO WAY! WHAT A GYP!

BOO! ブー

BOO! ブー

BOO! ブー

HOLD THIS FOR ME?

BE RIGHT BACK.

SURE.

HUH?

IT'S TIME FOR THE AWARD CERE-MONY!

OVER HERE!

What a pain...

ICHIJOOO!

GLUG

SARI BEAT

...TO KISS SOMEONE YOU DON'T HAVE FEELINGS FOR, RIGHT?

YOU WOULDN'T WANT...

I GUESS...

RIGHT.

*NOTE: IN JAPAN, IF A BOY AND GIRL DRINK OUT OF THE SAME CAN, IT'S CONSIDERED AN "INDIRECT KISS."

CLOBBER ボコスカ

CLOBBER ボコスカ

You'll pay for this!

Have mercy!!

You jerk, Maiko! I can't believe you lost!

Hey!!
Why's
second
place way
up there?
Get
down!
2
1
3

THE THIRD SEMESTER ENDED...

...AND NOW IT'S SPRING BREAK.

YOUNG MISTRESS, ISN'T YOUR DATE WITH RAKU ICHIJO TOMOR-ROW?

ARE YOU READY?

UH... YEAH.

Chapter 74: Big Lie

OH RIGHT...

...OUR SCHEDULED DATE IS TOMORROW.

SCHEDULED DATES...

...ARE WHEN BEAN SPROUT BOY AND I HAVE REGULAR PERIODIC DATES SO THE SHUEI-GUMI AND BEEHIVE GANGS WON'T BE SUSPICOUS OF OUR FALSE LOVE.

TSUGUMI STILL DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP...

キリッ...!!

HMPH!

What's the Mis-tress looking at?

IT ISN'T LIKE I'M NOT HAPPY TO SEE HIM...

...BUT CLAUDE HAS BEEN BUSY RECENTLY...

...SO THE WATCHFUL EYE HAS BEEN LAX.

...HAVE BEEN MISSING SOMETHING LATELY.

COME TO THINK OF IT...

...THE SCHEDULED DATES...

WITHOUT AN OBSERVER, WE DON'T DO ANYTHING ROMANTIC LIKE HOLD HANDS.

Which isn't exactly bad, but...

WHEN THAT HAPPENS, WE JUST KIND OF TALK AND GO HOME.

SIGH...

BUT SOMETIMES I DO WISH WE COULD HOLD HANDS...

FLUMP

After all, he isn't really my boyfriend!!

IT'S NOT LIKE I WANT SOMETHING ROMANTIC! NOT AT ALL!

BUT...NO!!

FLUMP

FLUMP

...EVEN WHEN OTHERS AREN'T WATCHING.

SOMETIMES I WISH...

...WE COULD HAPPILY HOLD HANDS...

HUH?

AND I'D BE TOO EMBARRASSED!!

HE'D NEVER DO THAT!!

BUT THAT'LL NEVER HAPPEN!!

ゴロ ROLL

ゴロ ROLL

ゴロ ROLL

ゴロ ROLL

I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

...TOMORROW IS APRIL FOOL'S DAY.

OH!

APRIL BEGINS TOMORROW.

THAT MEANS... HMM?

OH...

...GOOD MORNING, HONEY.

THE WEATHER SURE IS WARMING UP.

GOOD MORNING, DARLING!

Y-YEAH...

HA HA...

TIME PASSES SO QUICKLY. WE'LL BE SECOND-YEARS SOON.

HOW MANY SCHEDULED DATES HAVE WE BEEN ON?

IS FOUR-EYES HERE?!

No way!

WELL, ACTUALLY...

AHEM!

Y-YOU SEEM SO SERIOUS.

YOU DO?

JUST STAY CALM AND LISTEN.

GAH! NO... WAIT!

I HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TELL YOU!!

WELL, NO NEED TO TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY.

FOUR-EYES NEVER SHOWS UP ANYMORE.

...HAVE COME TO OBSERVE US TODAY.

Psst...

...FIVE HUNDRED BEEHIVE MEMBERS ...

SHH!

NOT SO LOUD! THEY'LL GET SUSPI-CIOUS!!

WH-WHY?!

F-FIVE HUNDRED ?!

HUUUH ?!!

WHAT ?!

KOFF

KOFF

S-SO...

...TODAY WE HAVE TO REALLY ACT LIKE WE'RE IN LOVE.

EVEN MORE THAN USUAL, OKAY?

HE'S SERIOUS TODAY.

AS THE SCHOOL YEAR ENDS...

...CLAUDE WANTS TO MAKE SURE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP.

NOW WE CAN HOLD HANDS WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT SURVEIL-LANCE.

...BUT HEY, IT'S APRIL FOOL'S...

IT'S A LITTLE MEAN...

BUT IT'S ALL A BIG LIE!!!

HE TOTALLY FELL FOR IT!

WHOA! HE BOUGHT IT!

500 people. 500...

MUTTER

MUTTER

500 people

MUTTER

MUTTER

MAYBE SOO WAS GOING OVERBOARD, THOUGH...

チラ...
GLANCE

HE MIGHT NOT FALL FOR IT...

S-SURE, BUT...

...H-HOW CAN YOU STAY SO CALM?

JUST ACT NORMAL.

D-DON'T FREEZE UP!

B-BUT 500 PEOPLE...

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!

CHITOGE DOESN'T SEEM FAZED...

SERIOUSLY? FIVE HUNDRED PEOPLE IS NO JOKE!!

...BUT WE NEED TO TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY!!

...I HAVE TO ADMIT I'M A LITTLE HAPPY THAT HE BELIEVED ME...

BUT...

HE TOTALLY BOUGHT IT.

...WHEN I SAID SOMETHING SO RIDICULOUS.

GIVE ME YOUR HAND...

...AND LET'S GO.

FOR NOW, WE CAN ENJOY BEING ROMANTIC-- JUST THE TWO OF US.

...BUT I'LL TELL HIM AFTER WE'VE HAD A LITTLE FUN.

I FEEL SORRY FOR TRICKING HIM...

...LET'S GO, CHITOGE !!

SO...

キラーン

VEEN

TODAY, WE NEED TO BE THREE TIMES THE LOVEY-DOVEY!!

THEY'LL NEVER FALL FOR THE USUAL SHTICK!

I MEAN, SOO PEOPLE!!

NO!

WE CAN'T!!

HEY! WHAT'RE YOU...

SHUP

ガシ!

UH... UM...

...

ゴゴゴ

I'M EMBARRASSED TOO!

JUST DO IT!!

And it's hard to walk!!

WAIT! TH-THIS IS EMBARRASSING!!

I NEVER EXPECTED HIM TO ACT LIKE THIS!!

OH NO!

KYAAAAAH!!!

TA-DAA!

BUT NOW I'M A HUNDRED TIMES MORE EMBARRASSED!!!!!

FOR SOME REASON, I COULD HANDLE THIS BEFORE...

Whoa!

EVERYONE'S LOOKING!!

YIKES!

Hoot!

Hoot!

Hoot!

HUH?

FWSH

SHUP

IF WE SUDDENLY GET CLOSE LIKE THIS...

N...NO!!

I CAN'T STAND IT!!

FWOOSH

HYAAAAH!!!

AIIEEE!!

!!!

GASP

UH... SORRY... I JUST...

WH- WHAT'D YOU DO THAT FOR?!

WH-WH-WH- WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!

WH...

GRAB

OOF!!!

GET DOWN, CHITOGE!!

PHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!

I KNOW IT'S EMBARRASSING, BUT HANG IN THERE.

THEY WOULD HURT ME, AND MAYBE EVEN YOU.

HUH?

I THOUGHT ...

...IF WE DID SOMETHING UNLOVERLIKE ...

...THE BULLETS COULD START FLYING AT ANY MOMENT!

47... PANG

...I REALLY DO FEEL BAD ABOUT THIS.

SHEESH...

...AND HE'S WORRIED ABOUT ME.

HE'S TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY...

MOMENTO DOCE

Only for Couples!

SHARING A DRINK?

GOOD IDEA!

HOW ABOUT A DRINK?

LOOK! A SPECIAL DRINK FOR COUPLES!

BLUSH BLUSH

WE BETTER THINK OF SOMETHING TO SHOW OUR LOVE.

BUT WHAT'S DONE IS DONE.

OH! I KNOW!

Y-YEAH.

THE POCKY...

HOW ABOUT THE POCKY GAME?

IT WON'T WORK!!

BUT IT ISN'T ENOUGH!

HUH?!!

...

I KNOW!

IT NEEDS TO BE MORE INTIMATE...

They could be watching anywhere!

THAT'S THE WHOLE POINT!!

YOU IDIOT!!

BUT EVERYONE WILL SEE!!

BUT HE'S SO SERIOUS. IT'S HARD TO TELL HIM.

YOU IDIOT!!

OH MAN...

GAH!

Just do it!

Hurry!

COME ON!!

フイ...

FWIP

FORGET THAT! HERE!

WHAK

SORRY!!

CHOMP

WELL, AS LONG AS YOU UNDER-STAND, THAT'S OKAY.

HUNH?! LIKE I SAID...

I TAKE IT BACK.

I'M REALLY SORRY...

IT WAS GOING SO WELL!

WHY DID YOU HIT ME?!

...

SO, UH...

THESE COME OFF EASILY...

MY HEEL SLIPPED...

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

WOBL

WHAT HAP-PENED?

HUH?

GLOMP

WE NEED TO GO ALL OUT... LIKE THIS!!

...LIKE WE'RE BOYFRIEND AND GIRL-FRIEND?

...C-CAN I LEAN ON YOUR SHOULDER...

AAAAACK!!!

?!!!

HUH ?!

NO...

...THAT WON'T BE ENOUGH.

YEAH, BUT...!!

WE'RE TOTALLY SCORING LOVER POINTS!

JUST SHUT UP!

IT'S EMBAR-RASSING!

S-STOP THAT!

WHAT A DEXTEROUS MOVE!!!

SLAMMM

HYAAAAH

ドォォォ!!!!

あああああ

WAAAAAAA

あああ

WHSH

ボル!!

あ AAAAAA

あああ

AAAAAA

ガシッ GRB

あああ

AND TIME'S ALMOST UP. WE BETTER ACT FAST, OR THERE WON'T BE A NEXT TIME.

THIS ISN'T GOING WELL.

...

I'M SO SORRY...

IT'S ALL MY FAULT. SORRY!

COME ON!!

CAN'T YOU AT LEAST *TRY*?!

HUH?!

WELL, AS LONG AS YOU UNDER-STAND...

LIKE I SAID...

...IF I TELL HIM IT WAS ALL A LIE...

...HE'LL HATE ME!

GNF...

ズキ...

BUT AFTER ALL THIS, THERE'S NO WAY I CAN TELL HIM.

I SHOULD TELL HIM.

BESIDES...

LUB DUB

ドキ...

LUB DUB

ドキ...

THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

HUH?

DID YOU GET UPSET?

YOU MAY NOT BE MY REAL GIRLFRIEND ...

...BUT I WOULD PROTECT YOU IF SOMETHING HAPPENED...

...SO DON'T WORRY.

MY FAMILY'S CREED...

...HAS SOMETHING CALLED "A MAN'S DUTY."

AND ONE IS...

SCRITCH ガシ...

..."DEFEND YOUR WOMAN...

..."EVEN IF IT KILLS YOU."

UH... RAKU?

...

YEAH?

...

I...

LUB DUB!

SHUMP

I'M SORRY!!!!

!!!!

IT WAS JUST A JOKE...

...THAT I DECIDED TO PULL ON A WILD IMPULSE!

AFTER ALL...

WHAT I SAID...

...ABOUT EVERYONE IN MY HOUSE OBSERV-ING US...

...WAS ALL A LIE!!

...TODAY IS APRIL FOOL'S DAY!!

SERI-
OUSLY.

SERIOUSLY?

RAKUUUU!!!

バーン!!
FWUMP

ッ…
FWIP

S... SOR-
RY.

I SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU SOONER, BUT...

UM...

S-SERI-
OUSLY?

IT WAS ALL A LIE?

IT'S OKAY! BE STRONG !!

RAKUUU!!

ビク…
EEK

WHY YOU...

はぁあ
SIGH

IDIOT!

SO YOU FORGIVE ME?

BUT... I'M STILL MAD.

OH WELL...

...IT'S APRIL FOOL'S, SO I UNDER-STAND.

...MADE FOOLS OF OUR-SELVES!

Sorry.

...WE BOTH...

I'LL TAKE YOUR HAND.

COME ON.

OH NO... MY HEEL CAME COMPLETELY OFF...

YOU'LL HAVE TO GO HOME TO FIX IT.

CLUNK

SHAME ON ME FOR GETTING FOOLED.

UGH. WHAT A DUMB LIE TO TELL.

I even told you our family sayings...

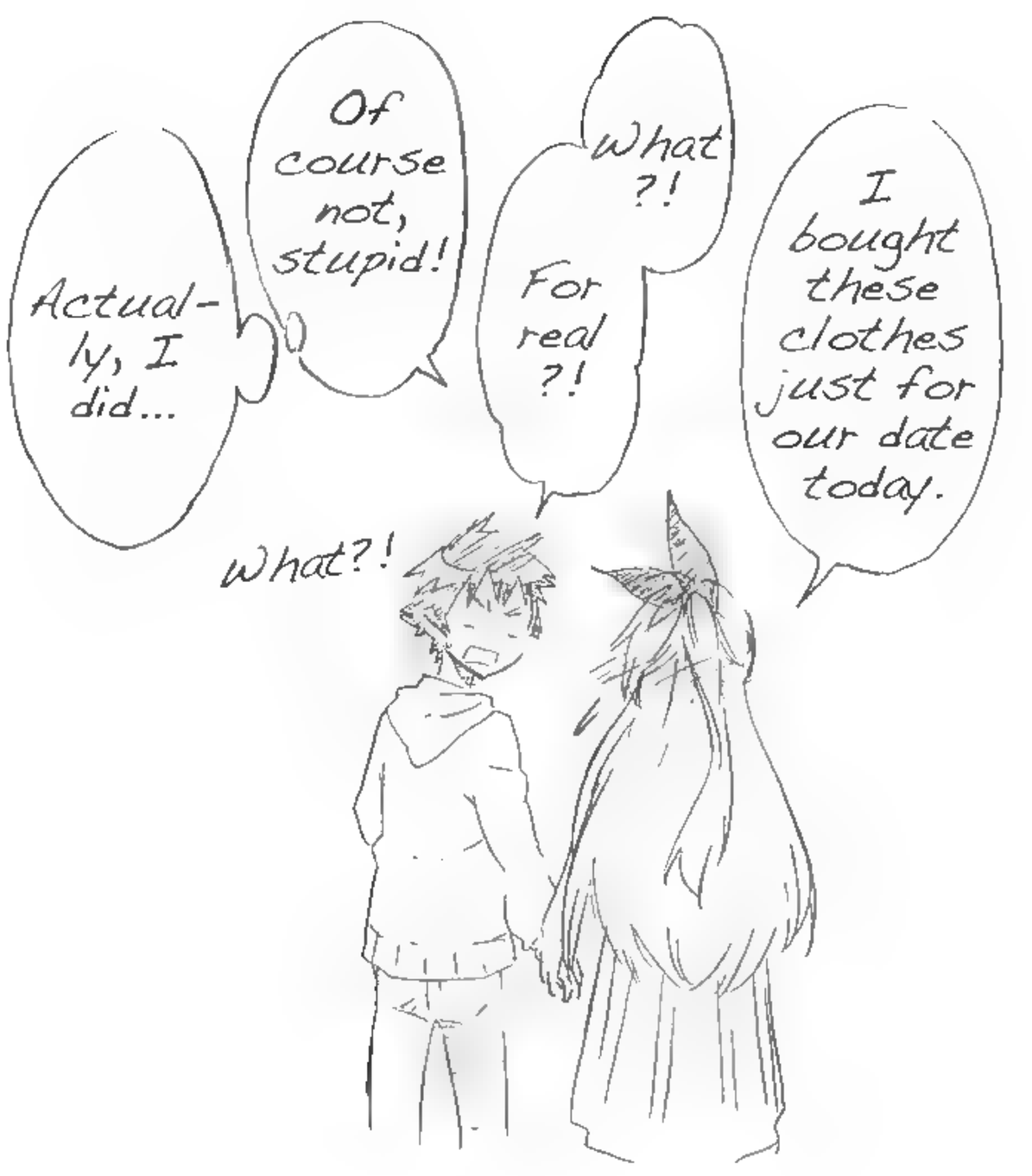
...NOW IT'S REALLY HAPPENING.

OH...

HUH?

YEAH, I GUESS SO.

I GUESS IT'S WRONG TO LIE.


Actual-
ly, I
did...
Of
course
not,
stupid!
For
real
?!
What
?!
I
bought
these
clothes
just for
our date
today.
What?!

SPRING.

WHOOSH

A WARM BREEZE RIFLES THROUGH MY HAIR AND MAKES THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS SWAY...

IT WAS THAT KIND OF APRIL.

Chapter 75: Kamikaze

TODAY I START MY FIRST YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL!

I LUCKED OUT AND GOT INTO MY NEIGHBOR-HOOD'S COED HIGH SCHOOL.

MY CHEST WAS BURSTING WITH THE ANTICIPATION OF THE NEW LIFE AWAITING ME.

Yippee!

ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, THE SKY WAS A BRILLIANT BLUE...

...THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS WERE BLOOMING ...

WHAT WILL HIGH SCHOOL BE LIKE?

LITTLE DID I KNOW...

TEE-HEE!

...AND I FELT AS IF A BEAUTIFUL ROMANCE WAS JUST WAITING TO START!

...ON THE VERY FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

ニヤ SNEER ニヤ

SNICKER

HEH HEH HEH! へへへ...

...TROUBLE WOULD FIND ME...

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Y-Y-Y-YIKES!

FORGET ABOUT SCHOOL, BABY! COME PARTY WITH US!

WELL, WELL! AREN'T YOU A CUTIE!

SHUP

ガッ

C'MERE, HONEY!

YEEEP!

ビクッ!!

FLINCH

I'M TOTALLY NOT COMFORT-ABLE AROUND GUYS...

SOME-BODY... HELP ME!!

I WENT TO AN ALL-GIRLS JUNIOR HIGH!

I THINK I'M GOING TO PASS OUT!

WORMP

I CAN'T HANDLE THIS!

HEY!

LEAVE HER ALONE!

HUH?

CAN'T YOU SEE YOU'RE UPSETTING HER?

HUH?

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

Y-YIKES! RUN!!
YO, DUDE, LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
YOU OKAY?
GUYS! I TOLD YOU NOT TO FOLLOW ME TO SCHOOL!
EVERY-THING'S GOING DARK...
HEY, WHO'RE THESE CLOWNS?
YOUNG MASTER! YOU FORGOT SOME-THING!
WORMP
OH NO...
WORMP
75..
WHO IS IT?
S-SOME-ONE'S RESCUING ME?
C'MON NOW, GUYS. DON'T GET UPSET...
Isn't it a little early for this?
STAY OUTTA THIS, PUNK. YOU DON'T WANNA MESS WITH US!
POOR KID. MUST HAVE BEEN PRETTY FREAKED OUT.
WHO'S THIS?
OH NO! WHAT SHOULD WE DO? WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE HER HERE...
OH!
SHE FAINTED?!
I CAN TELL BY HER UNI-FORM.
SHE GOES TO MY SCHOOL.

ガ"

JOLT ハ"ッ

WHERE AM I?

HUH?

A KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR?

REALLY?

HE CARRIED ME UNCONSCIOUS TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE!

ISN'T THAT SWEET?

WOW.

IT'S MEANT TO BE! I JUST KNOW IT!

HE WAS SO AMAZ-ING!

THAT'S RIGHT!

HE APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE...

...AND CAME TO MY RESCUE!

IT ALL JUST HAPPENED OUT OF THE BLUE!

OH! I'M SO SORRY, FU!

Glad you're okay, anyway.

SO THAT'S WHY YOU WERE A NO-SHOW?

I WAITED FOR YOU!

?

PLUS, IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVE NOTHING TO GO ON.

HUH?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT I WILL!

HE GOES TO OUR SCHOOL... I SAW HIS UNIFORM!

BUT...

HOW'LL YOU FIND HIM AGAIN?

YOU DIDN'T SEE HIS FACE AND YOU DON'T KNOW HIS NAME, RIGHT?

LOOKS LIKE THIS IS MY SEAT...

I GUESS WE'RE NEIGH-BORS!

HI!

OH!

I REALLY WANT TO SAY THANK YOU...

WILL I SEE HIM AGAIN?

WOW! SHE'S NOT JAPANESE!

AND SHE'S SUPER GOR-GEOUS!!

?...

HUH?!

PHEW

Yep, she does!

NICE TO MEET YOU, PAULA!

MY NAME IS...

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR NAME.

DON'T BOTHER.

Hope she speaks Japanese...

UM... WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

PAULA.

PAULA MCCOY.

DA-DUM
ゴロリ…

WHAT DID I DO TO HER?!

WHAT'S WITH THE ATTITUDE?!

KTUNK
KTUNK
ゴトゴトン

OH.

THOSE LOOK LIKE THE REAL THING!!

FWOO…

WHAT THE…?! HAND GRENADES?!

WHO THE HECK IS THIS GIRL?! SHE'S SCARY!

EXCUSE ME.

…I HAVE TO FIND TOO!

BUT THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE…

I HAVE TO FIND MY KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR…

SKWEE
ギュ…!!

I ALMOST FORGOT!

SPEAKING OF SCARY PEOPLE…

OOPS.
SORRY!
AUGH!!
KA-SHOOF
バサバサバサ
SO THEN I...
HA HA!
WHAP
YIKES!
YES...NO MATTER WHAT!!
Upsy-daisy!
YOU OKAY?
HUH?
FWIP
カサ…
BOYS CAN BE SUCH JERKS!
GEEZ, WHAT GIVES?
OH! THE GIRL FROM THIS MORNING...
FLUTTER
カサ…

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

I WAS HEADED THIS WAY ANYWAY.

THANKS...

YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE TO HELP ME.

IF YOU NEED HELP WITH ANYTHING, FEEL FREE TO ASK.

I'M A SECOND-YEAR.

You're older, right?

ER, YES!

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

...YOU'RE A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT, RIGHT?

JUDGING FROM YOUR TIE'S COLOR...

OH WELL. WOULDN'T WANT HER TO FEEL INDEBTED, ANYWAY.

GUESS SHE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE ME.

I'll keep quiet for now.

BUT WHAT'RE THE ODDS OF THAT?

HE KIND OF REMINDS ME OF THE GUY WHO SAVED ME...

IT'S KIND OF A RELIEF TO MEET YOU.

I WENT TO AN ALL-GIRLS JUNIOR HIGH AND WAS KIND OF NERVOUS ABOUT A COED SCHOOL...

...BUT IT'S GOOD TO KNOW SOME GUYS ARE REALLY NICE.

I'M NOT SURE I EVEN KNOW WHERE THE OFFICE IS.

HONESTLY, I REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR HELP.

PLUS ...

OH, REALLY?

WELL, THAT'S GOOD TO KNOW.

ACTUALLY, THIS MORNING...

...ANOTHER GUY FROM THIS SCHOOL CAME TO MY RESCUE TOO.

ASIDE FROM THAT GUY...

YEAH...

YOU'RE A SECOND-YEAR, RIGHT?

...THERE'S ANOTHER SECOND-YEAR STUDENT I HAVE TO FIND! MAYBE YOU KNOW HIM!

BUT I DON'T KNOW HIS NAME OR WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE!

I'D LIKE TO FIND HIM AND THANK HIM...

HEY, BY THE WAY...

KYOKO'S LOOKING FOR YOU!

THANKS!

BE RIGHT THERE!

FAMOUS?

WHAT'S HIS NAME?

FROM WHAT I HEAR, HE'S PRETTY FAMOUS AROUND HERE.

HEY, ICHIJO!

I-ICHIJO?

...

...?

SO?

WHERE WERE WE?

TAK

TAK

TAK

TAK

HUHR!

FWOOMP

THE RAKU ICHIJO?!

SO...

YOU'RE... *THE* RAKU ICHIJO?

...ARE YOU THE ONLY PERSON NAMED ICHIJO AT THIS SCHOOL?

EXCUSE ME, BUT...

FAR AS I KNOW... I THINK SO.

WHERE'D YOU HEAR THAT GAR-BAGE?!

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!!

HA HA HA HA

THE GUY WHO THEY SAY USES HIS DAD'S POWER TO RULE THE SCHOOL FROM BEHIND THE SCENES?

THE GUY WHO SURROUNDS HIMSELF WITH AN ENTOURAGE OF GORGEOUS BABES EVEN THOUGH HE HAS A TOTAL MEGA-FOX GIRLFRIEND?

THE SON OF THE BOSS OF THE SHUEI-GUMI YAKUZA SYNDICATE?

ENTOURAGE OF HOT BABES

MEGA-FOX GIRLFRIEND

STAY BACK, PLEASE!!

EEEK!

THAT RAKU ICHIJO?!

OH!

WAIT A SEC...

HERE I THOUGHT YOU WERE SUCH A GENTLE-MAN...

...BUT IT WAS JUST A PLOY TO ROPE IN MORE GIRLS!

HOW COULD YOU!

AND TO THINK I THOUGHT YOU WERE A NICE GUY!

NOW, HOLD ON...

WILL YOU JUST LISTEN A SEC!

GRR...!!

NO, YOU LISTEN!

I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SAY TO YOU!!

FWOOOO-

FROM NOW ON...

...STAY AWAY FROM MY SISTER!!

...

!!!

FWOOP

!...!!

DID YOU SEE?

...

NO, BUT...

SMAK

JUST A LITTLE SURPRISED BY THE TEDDY BEARS...

OH! ONODERA!

What was that noise?

WHAT'S WRONG, ICHIJO?

WELL ...

...

IT WASN'T MY FAULT.

YOU CREEP!! YOU DISGUSTING PIG!!

CREEP!

"SIS"?

UM...

SHOOP

I'M HERE, OKAY? YOU'RE GONNA BE OKAY!!

DON'T WORRY, SIS!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?

HARU?

WHAT?

HUH?

SIS!!

THE NAME'S HARU ONODERA!
KOSAKI IS MY BIG SISTER!

Chapter 76: Younger Sister

KOSAKI IS MY BIG SISTER!

THE NAME'S HARU ONODERA!

YES...

...WE'RE SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS NOW, RURI!

YOU'RE HER...

...SISTER?!

HMM.

Hee Hee

SOUNDS LIKE SIS HAS A CRUSH ON THIS ICHIJO GUY!

I JUST HOPE WE'RE STILL IN THE SAME CLASS AS ICHIJO!

YIKES! SCARY!

WAIT... WHAT DID YOU SAY?

I HEAR THERE'S A REALLY SCARY OLDER GUY AT YOUR NEW HIGH SCHOOL, HARU!

HIS FAMILY'S YAKUZA! A GUY CALLED ICHIJO ...

THANKS FOR WAITING. NOW, WHERE WERE WE?

OH, YEAH, I WAS JUST SAYING ...

ｶﾁｬ...

KCHAK

THIS GUY'S A TOTAL CREEP!

NOW THAT WE'VE MET IN PERSON, I'M SURE OF IT!

ICHIJO ?!

WAIT... TELL ME MORE!

DON'T YOU DARE MESS WITH MY SISTER!!

HUH?

?!

YOU MENTIONED YOU HAD A SISTER...

OH, RIGHT!

STAY AWAY!!

I HAVE TO PROTECT HER!

SOUNDS LIKE HE'S REALLY GOT SIS FOOLED!

HEY...

WHO'S THIS?

ヒョイ PEEK

CHITOGE...!

WHAT'S COME OVER YOU?!

HARU!

THIS GUY'S A TOTAL SCUMBAG!

WAKE UP, SIS!

WHAT'S ALL THE RUCKUS ABOUT?

HEY, WHAT'S UP?

WOW! SO YOU'RE KOSAKI'S LITTLE SISTER!

NICE TO MEET YOU! WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

KOSAKI'S LITTLE SISTER?!

WHAT?!

SHE'S G-GOR-GEOUS!

Y-YIKES!

IS SHE HALF-JAPAN-ESE?

THE RUMORS WERE TRUE!!

IS THIS THE TOTAL MEGA-FOX GIRLFRIEND?!

WOW... SHE LOOKS LIKE A MODEL!

IT'S THE ONLY POSSIBLE EXPLANA-TION!

??

BLACK-MAIL?

WHAT'S SHE TALKING ABOUT?!

YAP

WITH A SUPER HOT BOD...

...AND YOU SEEM REALLY NICE TOO!

YOU'RE AMAZINGLY BEAUTIFUL ...

ピク... TWITCH

HUH?!

IS HE BLACK-MAILING YOU OR SOME-THING?!

C'MON NOW... THAT'S GOING TOO FAR!

You better apologize!

HARU!! WHAT A THING TO SAY!!

CHITOGE, TELL HER, WOULDJA?

IT MAKES NO SENSE!

DON'T TELL ME YOU ACTUALLY LIKE THIS DISGUSTING JERK!

WHY WOULD YOU DATE SUCH AN OBVIOUS LOSER?

HEY HEY HEY!!

OH, RAKU DEEEAREST!

...

SKWEE SKWEE スリスリ

Yeep!

Eek!

I'm Chitoge Kirisaki! Let's be friends!

OH! IT'S SO NICE TO MEET YOU, HARU!

WHAT A LITTLE DARLING YOU ARE!

C'MERE, SWEETIE!

?!

HUH?

TACHI-BANA?!

SHUP

GRB

WON'T YOU JOIN ME FOR A CUP OF TEA, HANDSOME?

Leggo, would'a?

WHO'S THIS? ANOTHER SUPER-HOTTIE!

MORE IMPORTANTLY...

Come now, don't be like that! ♡

IS SHE PART OF THE ENTOURAGE OF GORGEOUS BABES?!

U ... WHAT ...
U HECK?!

WHO HAVE WE HERE?

OH!

HMM?

A GUY WHO HAS A GIRL-FRIEND!!

YOU REALIZE THAT, DON'T YOU?!

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE ALL OVER SOME GUY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SCHOOL HALLWAY!

Tee hee hee!

LOVE CONQUERS ALL!

EVEN A GIRLFRIEND!

THE POWER OF LOVE ECLIPSES ALL OB-STACLES!

HEH...

OH, CHILD, YOU'LL UNDER-STAND WHEN YOU'RE OLDER!

DOES SHE REALLY LIKE THIS ICHIJO CHARACTER?

WHAT'S GOING ON?

I DON'T GET IT!!

WHAT AM I, A USED CAR?!

??

RAKU DEAREST...

WE'RE SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS NOW. WHY DON'T YOU TRADE IN THAT CLUNKY OLD GIRLFRIEND OF YOURS FOR AN UPDATED MODEL?

An excellent trade-in value, I assure you!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU HEARD, HARU...

...BUT RUMORS ARE JUST RUMORS!

BUT SIS...

HARU...

YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG. ICHIJO ISN'T A JERK.

BUT SIS...

SHP

NO, SIS!

BELIEVE ME!!

YOU'RE TOO NICE FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!

HE SAW MY UNDIES !!

?!

I CAN EXPLAIN !!

ゴゴゴゴ GRRRRR

SHAKKA ワル

WHAT'S SHE TALKING ABOUT...

...DARLING ?

WHAT UNDIES AM I WEARING TODAY AGAIN?

SHAKKA ワル

SHAKKA SHAKKA

AIIEEE!!

!!!! KA-POW

キャアア!!

I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT!!

NOW WHAT?

HUH?

AND SIS WON'T EVEN LISTEN TO ME...

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT JERK SAW MY UNDIES!

WHAT ROTTEN LUCK.

MANGA FANS!!!

PHOTOGRAPHY

Animal Caregivers Needed!!

OH!

THEY NEED ANIMAL CARE-GIVERS?

Basketball

Tea

Sign up today!

Soccer

Drama Club

Classics

Swim Team

Join us!!

Umph!

VOLLEYBALL

PING PONG CLUB

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

WHAT SHOULD I SIGN UP FOR?

AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVI-TIES?

WAIT A SEC...

Tee hee hee!

Ha ha!

IT MIGHT BE NICE TO BE SURROUNDED BY SWEET LITTLE ANIMALS!

CARING FOR ANIMALS...

WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?!

SKWAWK
グエッ!!

SKWAWK
グエッ!!

Here you go— eat up!

TWITCH

OH WELL... GUESS ONODERA ISN'T COMING TODAY, RIGHT BOY?

WELL, FORGET IT!

NO WAY I'M JOINING WITH THAT SCUM-BAG!

SIGH

HOW COME HE'S CARING FOR THE ANIMALS ?!

OH, GREAT!

JUST MY LUCK!

?!

YOU DIS-GUSTING PIG!

JOLT
ビクッ!!

WHAT?! WH...

Yeah, right!

THAT WOULD BE AWE-SOME...

MAYBE WE EVEN COULD HAVE WALKED HOME TO-GETHER.

TOO BAD... MY ONE CHANCE TO BE ALONE WITH HER...

SKWAWK
グエッ

SKWAWK
グエッ

I KNEW IT!!

THE RUMORS ARE TRUE! YOU'RE A TOTAL PLAYER!

YOU'RE ALREADY DATING A TOTAL KNOCKOUT...

...PLUS YOU'RE TRYING TO HIT ON MY SISTER!!

WAIT A SEC... YOU'RE...

OH NO!! SOMEBODY HEARD ME?!

GRRRR ゴゴゴ

GRRR ゴゴ

IF YOU DON'T STAY AWAY FROM MY...

LISTEN, DIRTBAG ...

KA-

SIS...

SKWAAK

FWAPPA

HT!!

CLOBBER

ACTUALLY, THE BEARS ARE KINDA CUTE.

...TER...

OH...

SPLOOSH

OKAY, MOM!

Japanese Confections Onode

GO AHEAD AND HAVE YOUR BATH BEFORE DINNER!

KO-SAKI!

HARU!

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE TOOK A BATH TOGETHER!

GEE, HARU...

Reminds me of when we were kids!

YEAH...

I WAS AN IDIOT FOR THINKING HE WAS NICE AT FIRST!!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!! I'LL NEVER FORGIVE THAT SLEAZEBAG!

C'MON NOW... THAT'S GOING A BIT FAR!

HE SAW MY UNDIES AGAIN!!

OF COURSE!!

THAT'S TWICE NOW!

Gah!!

ARE YOU STILL MAD AT ICHIJO?

I TOTALLY DON'T GET IT.

WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT HIM?

YOU JUST HAVE TO GET TO KNOW HIM.

ICHIJO'S A GREAT GUY!

WELL...

IT'S HARD TO PIN IT DOWN, BUT...

FOR EXAMPLE...

HE'S A REALLY NICE GUY.

BASICALLY...

WHAAAAT?

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT??

HE'S ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE.

IF SOMEONE'S IN TROUBLE, HE HAS TO HELP THEM.

HE DOESN'T WORRY ABOUT HIMSELF.

AND WHEN HE MAKES SOMEONE ELSE HAPPY...

...IT MAKES HIM TRULY HAPPY TOO.

...ICHIJO IS!

THAT'S JUST HOW...

I REALLY NEED TO PROTECT HER...

MY SISTER'S JUST TOO NICE. SHE DOESN'T SEE HIM AS HE REALLY IS!!

BLUB BLUB ポコポコ

I'M SURE YOU TWO WILL BECOME FRIENDS!

JUST WAIT!

...WHY YOU LIKE HIM, SIS!

I WASN'T ASKING...

Awww!

I'm not interested!

Forget it!

SHOOF ガラッ!

I MET MY DREAM GUY TODAY!!

I ALMOST FORGOT, SIS!

REALLY?

SPLISH

ON THE WAY HOME, YOU MENTIONED SOMETHING ABOUT MEETING PRINCE CHARMING TODAY?

BY THE WAY...

HUH?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT!

パタン…
KCHAK
RUB RUB
ゴシゴシ…
He was tall... maybe third-year?
HOPE I FIND MY PRINCE CHARMING AGAIN!
WONDER WHAT YEAR HE IS IN SCHOOL?
GUESS I'LL TAKE MY BATH AND PASS OUT...
ONODERA'S SISTER REALLY HATES MY GUTS!
Bummer!
PHEW... WHAT A ROUGH DAY!
Welcome home, Young Master!
THAT REMINDS ME!
RUMMAGE
I HAVE AN IMPORTANT CLUE!
OH!
I SURE HOPE I FIND HIM!
WONDER WHAT HE'S LIKE?
HE WAS DEFINITELY SWEET AND DEPENDABLE...
OH NO!
FLAIL
FLAIL
SEARCH
SEARCH
FWAP
GAH! THAT CHITOGE !!
SHFF SHFF
ぬぎ
ぬぎ…
OW! MORE BRUISES?
WAIT...

JING

...

I SURE HOPE...

AAAAUGH!!

ギャアアアアアアアアア!!

...I FIND MY PRINCE!

Young mas-ter?

What's going on?!

Huh?! Paula?

Menagerie Resident No. 126
Cyclops Gengar
Vermilion Bird

AND KATO CAN'T COME EITHER, RIGHT?

YES. I'M TWO WORKERS SHORT ALL OF A SUDDEN!

NAKAMURA CAN'T MAKE IT ON SUNDAY EITHER.

OH, DEAR.

KCHAK

ガチャ…

REALLY …

OH!

OH…

I KNOW!

I'LL STILL NEED ONE MORE PERSON …

Hmm

AND SIS CAN HELP TOO, RIGHT?

I'LL HELP AT THE SHOP, MOM!

HAND-SOME HELP-ER?

?

SURE! I'LL ASK HIM!

OH…

HOW ABOUT ASKING OUR HANDSOME HELPER FROM LAST TIME?

KOSAKI …

HUH?

CHIRP チュン…

GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE!

I'll be helping out today.

CHIRP チュン…

GOOD…

WHA…

WHA…

THANKS FOR COMING, ICHIJO!

THERE'S OUR HANDSOME HELPER!

OH!

Chapter 77: Get to Work!

WHAT?!

MOM SAID THAT?!

MOM SAID HE WAS REALLY GOOD.

WELL, SURE!

HE HELPED US OUT BEFORE, SO HE KNOWS THE ROPES.

ICHIJO IS THE HELPER?!

FWSH-

ギロン!!

FLINCH

ビクッ

HE'S AL-READY HERE AND READY!

DON'T BE SILLY, HARU!

THEN WE WON'T NEED AN-OTHER HELPER!

WHAT IF I JUST WORK EXTRA HARD?

YEAH, BUT STILL!

GEEZ... SHE TOTALLY DOESN'T TRUST ME.

I WISH WE GOT ALONG BETTER, SINCE SHE'S ONODERA'S SISTER AND ALL...

Of course, I totally get it...

HE'S TRYING TO PUT THE MOVES ON SIS! I KNOW IT!

HE'S GOT SOME NERVE!

BUT I WON'T LET HIM LAY A FINGER ON HER NO MATTER WHAT!

WHAT'S THIS?

SIZZLE SIZZLE バチ バチ

I WISH THE TWO OF THEM COULD GET ALONG!

HARU REALLY DOESN'T LIKE ICHIJO!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, MOM?!

WATCH OUT, KOSAKI! I THINK YOU HAVE A RIVAL!

WELL, WELL! I SEE YOU TWO ALREADY HAVE SPARKS BETWEEN YOU!

Tee hee...

ICHIJO, COULD YOU HAND ME THAT LITTLE SPOON?

SURE!

WE'LL START WITH THE SWEET BEAN PASTE LIKE LAST TIME.

SOUNDS GOOD!

ALL RIGHT... LET'S GET RIGHT TO WORK!

HUH? UH... THANKS.

HERE, SIS!

パシッ!!

SHUP!

?!

ヒソヒソ: SNEER

GEEZ...

Ahem...

UM... HARU?

I FEEL LIKE THERE'S BEEN SOME MISUNDER-STANDINGS BETWEEN US...

HMM...

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Twice!

THAT'S AN IRREFUTABLE FACT, NOT A MISUNDER-STANDING!

YOU MEAN ABOUT YOU LOOKING AT MY UNDERWEAR?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

MISUNDER-STANDINGS?

ZING

ZING

AUGH! DOES SHE HAVE TO BRING THAT UP IN FRONT OF ONODERA ?!

HUH?!

ONO-DERA?!

I'LL BE BACK SOON, OKAY?

MOM ASKED ME TO DO SOMETHING. IT WON'T TAKE LONG.

HEY!

THAT'S RIGHT!

I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO SPENDING TIME WITH ONODERA!

OH, GREAT!

I'M SURE THE TWO OF THEM JUST NEED SOME TIME TO TALK THINGS OUT!

Ha ha!

FROM WHAT HARU TOLD ME, IT WASN'T RAKU'S FAULT HE SAW HER UNDERWEAR.

YOU'VE REALLY GOT SOME NERVE!!

SHOWING UP HERE AFTER WHAT YOU DID TO ME!!

I DIDN'T... I WASN'T...

Ha ha!

YOU'LL HAVE TO HIT ON MY SISTER SOME OTHER TIME!

TOO BAD, ROMEO!

LET'S GET ONE THING STRAIGHT!

YOU KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF MY SISTER!

WHAT?! BUT THAT WASN'T MY FAULT!

It was the wind and an animal!

OH...

Sorry about that!

BUT NO! YOU EVEN HAD THE GALL TO COMMENT ON MY UNDER-WEAR!

YOU COULD'VE HAD THE DECENCY TO LOOK AWAY!

YEAH, I KNOW MY SISTER'S CUTE...

COULD YOU SINK ANY LOWER ?!

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

...IS THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO PUT THE MOVES ON MY SISTER WHEN YOU'RE ALREADY DATING AN AWESOME GIRL!

THE THING THAT TICKS ME OFF THE MOST...

YEAH, SHE DOES! THAT SMILE MAKES MY DAY!

AND IT'S EVEN CUTE HOW SHE'S KIND OF CLUELESS SOMETIMES...

AND SHE HAS AN AMAZING SMILE...

SHE'S KIND TO EVERY-ONE!

THAT'S RIGHT!

SWOON ♡

What a sister!

...AND THOUGHT-FUL OF OTHER PEOPLE..

PLUS SHE'S SUPER NICE...

YUP.

Uh-huh!

...AND SHE'S A MEGA-AWESOME SISTER!

...AND LADY-LIKE...

AND SHE'S VERY PURE...

I REFUSE TO LET HER GET TAKEN IN...

...BY A LYING SCUMBAG LIKE YOU!

THAT'S EXACTLY WHY...

SORRY!

WHO ASKED YOUR OPINION?!

WELL, I CAN RELATE TO THAT, EVEN THOUGH IT'S A BIT DIFFERENT...

WOW... HARU REALLY ADORES HER BIG SISTER.

SETTING ASIDE THE UNDERWEAR THING, AND THE RUMORS YOU'VE HEARD...

...I FEEL LIKE YOU SHOULD GIVE ME THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT!

WELL, THAT WAS ME!

REMEMBER THE GUY WHO SAVED YOU FROM THOSE JERKS WHO WERE HASSLING YOU THE OTHER DAY?

HUH?

LISTEN ...

I DON'T THINK YOU'RE BEING ENTIRELY FAIR.

I DIDN'T WANT TO HAVE TO USE THIS, BUT...

SHFF 47...

HOW DARE YOU!!

WHAT?!

UH...

WHAT?

Prince...?!

GRRR

CRACKLE CRACKLE

GRRR

I KNEW YOU WERE SLIME...

...BUT I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D GO AS FAR AS TO MALIGN MY PRINCE CHARMING!

YOU'RE REALLY ROTTEN TO THE CORE!!

I MAY NOT REMEMBER EXACTLY WHAT HE LOOKED LIKE, BUT HE WAS NOTHING LIKE YOU, THAT'S FOR SURE!!

?!

?!

HUH?!

WAIT A SEC...

BUT I'M TELLING YOU...

YOU'RE REALLY THE LOWEST OF THE LOW!!

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WOULD TELL SUCH A DISGUSTING LIE!

オロ FLAIL

オロ FLAIL

THAT'S NOT WHAT I...

WAIT...

HAHAHA

...AND A SMOOTH VOICE LIKE A VOICE ACTOR!

...WITH A FACE LIKE A HOLLYWOOD STAR...

...I'M PRETTY SURE HE WAS AT LEAST 6 FEET TALL...

MY MEMORY OF HIM IS HAZY, BUT...

TALK ABOUT GETTING CARRIED AWAY!!

Who're you talking about?!

OF COURSE I'M RIGHT!

WHAT A CREEPY THING TO SAY!

FORGET IT, OKAY?

YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M SORRY.

IF I ARGUE, IT'LL ONLY GET WORSE!

ARGH! NOW WHAT?

ZING

I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP!

JUST STAY OUT OF MY WAY!

LISTEN, LET'S START FRESH AND GET SOME WORK DONE, OKAY?

HOW CAN I HELP?

ARE ALL GUYS TOTAL DIRTBAGS?

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE WOULD TELL SUCH AN AWFUL LIE!

BY THE WAY, HARU...

YOU'RE AN OKAY COOK, RIGHT?

HUH?

SLINK

シュン…

?

SNORT

JUST WONDER-ING...

SINCE ONODERA'S NOT SO GREAT IN THE KITCHEN...

YEAH, THAT'S JUST HOW SIS IS.

SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY.

THAT'S WHY I LEARNED TO HELP OUT AT THE SHOP INSTEAD...

WATCHING YOU COOK...

I CAN SEE THAT YOU REALLY LOVE JAPANESE SWEETS.

HUH?

SO OF COURSE I KNOW HOW TO DO A LOT OF THIS STUFF.

WELL, THAT'S COOL!

PLUS...

I'D LOVE TO TASTE SOME!

...AND THE FINESSE WITH WHICH YOU PERFORM EACH STEP...

THE WAY YOU USE YOUR TOOLS...

...

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?

I BET YOUR SWEETS COME OUT REALLY DELICIOUS.

HE LOOKS LIKE HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING!

HE DOESN'T WORK LIKE AN AMATEUR...

...

OKAY, FINE.

QUIT TRYING TO BUTTER ME UP! YOU'RE WASTING YOUR BREATH!

HEY...

...

WHAT?

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU...

I'LL BE CAREFUL NOT TO GET IN THE WAY.

BUT I WANT TO HELP TOO.

MAKING JAPANESE SWEETS IS SUCH AN ART!

NOT THAT IT MATTERS.

WELL, I'LL BE...

AFTER I HELPED OUT AT THE SHOP THAT ONE TIME, I WAS HOOKED.

SO I'VE BEEN TEACHING MYSELF AT HOME...

WELL, LATELY I DO.

HUH?

DO YOU DO THIS OFTEN?

MAKE JAPAN-ESE SWEETS, I MEAN?

JUST THE RIGHT SUBTLE SWEETNESS WITH A SILKY SMOOTH TEXTURE...

WHOA!

パク！ CHOMP

ヒョイ SHOOP

BESIDES, I DOUBT THEY'LL BE ANY GOOD...

Ha ha!

*NOTE: DAIFUKU IS A JAPANESE CONFECTION CONSISTING OF CHEWY RICE CAKE STUFFED WITH SWEET BEAN PASTE.

YEAH, THEIR RED BEAN PASTE IS THE BEST!

ITS SWEETNESS IS BALANCED WITH A SUBTLE HINT OF SALTINESS ...

OH, SUZUMIYA?

I REALLY LOVE THEIR DAIFUKU TOO!

HOW IS IT?

NO, IT'S NOT GOOD. I REFUSE TO ADMIT IT!

I'VE BEEN TRYING TO EMULATE THE DAIFUKU* FROM SUZUMIYA ...

I KNOW! IT'S ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING INNOVATIONS OF THE HUMAN RACE!

WHOEVER THOUGHT TO PUT A STRAWBERRY IN A DAIFUKU WAS A TOTAL GENIUS!

I TOTALLY KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN!

YEAH, IT'S AWESOME. THEY USE REALLY GOOD STRAW-BERRIES.

IT'S TO DIE FOR!

I LOVE THEIR STRAW-BERRY DAIFUKU.

THEY'RE SO JUICY, IT KILLS ME!

WELL, WELL!

HE'S THE ENEMY!! I CAN'T FORGET THAT!

I could go for one of those right now!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M AGREEING WITH HIM!

WAIT!!

WHAT ?!!

I HOPE YOU'RE NOT FALLING FOR THE SAME GUY KOSAKI LIKES!

OH, HARU!

Tee hee!

I SEE IT'S JUST THE TWO OF YOU!

THAT'S UNUSUAL. HARU NORMALLY HATES BOYS...

WOULD YOU JUST DO ME A FAVOR AND GET LOST!!

I'VE HAD IT!!

I CAN'T DO THAT!

FALL FOR A GUY LIKE HIM?! NO WAY!!

DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!

GRRRRRR

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ

YOUR MOM'S THE SAME AS EVER, I SEE...

HO HO HO HO HO

ホホホホホホホホ

...

KA-

I CAN HANDLE ALL THIS STUFF ALONE!

GRAB

ガシッ

WHA ...?!

WAIT!

THAT'S WAY TOO HEAVY!

SHOOP

-WORMP-

EEP!

JOLT

ビリビリ

SKWEE

ギュ

グ…!

GRIP

!!

A GUY'S GOTTA BE GOOD FOR SOME-THING.

AT LEAST LET ME HANDLE THE HEAVY LIFTING!

I CAN'T. IF I LET GO, THEY'LL FALL!

LET GO!!

H-HEY!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING! DON'T TOUCH ME!!

キャー YAP

YAP キャー

YAP キャー

YAP キャー

LOUD ENOUGH FOR MY SISTER TO HEAR!

LET GO, OR I'LL SCREAM!

SO YOU'RE A GUY. SO WHAT!!

I CAN TOTALLY HANDLE THIS ALONE!

WILL YOU QUIT STRUGGLING? I DON'T WANT TO DROP THESE!

HUH?!

LUB DUB

I'D RATHER THAT THAN SEE YOU GET HURT.

FINE BY ME.

WHAT A CHEESY LINE!

LUB DUB ドキン...

Over there, on the table.

LUB DUB ドキン...

Where do you want these?

WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?!

THEY'RE BIG TOO.

SHUP ﾅｭｯ...

HIS HANDS FEEL REALLY STRONG.

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GETTING ALONG EVEN BETTER THAN I EXPECTED!

WELL...

JOLT

ハッ!!

SIS!! !!

WHAT THE... WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?!

YIKES! ICHIJO!!

KRASH ガラドーン!!

AUGH! DON'T LET GO!!

KLATTER ガラガラガラ

AIEE!!

I SHOULD'VE KNOWN...

...NOT TO LET MY GUARD DOWN!!

YAP ガミ

YAP ガミ

YAP ガミ

The scent of a love comic!
I smell something!
Tee hee hee
hee hee hee!

SIGH...

Chapter 78: Lost and Found

I'D BETTER GO CHECK ON HER!

YIKES! SPEAKING OF WHICH, I HOPE HE'S NOT HITTING ON HER RIGHT THIS MINUTE!

HMM.

KA-ti"

A...!! SHOOF

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?!

WOW! REALLY?

WELL, THE RUMORS ARE TRUE. I ACTUALLY MET HIM, AND HE'S A TOTAL JERK!

HE HAS A GIRL-FRIEND, BUT HE ACTUALLY CAME TO OUR HOUSE YESTERDAY TO FLIRT WITH MY SISTER!

YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME EITHER, FU??

NO OFFENSE, BUT SOMETIMES YOU GET CARRIED AWAY, HARU.

IS HE REALLY ALL THAT BAD?

HUH? SURE, WHY NOT?

CAN I GO WITH YOU?

WOW... YOU LOOK TICKED OFF!

NOT ONCE, BUT TWICE!

HE SAW MY UNDIES!

FLINCH

ピク

?

HE DOESN'T LOOK THAT SCARY...

Who knows what that guy's thinking about!

DON'T LET HIM FOOL YOU, FU!

THAT'S ICHIJO!

THAT'S HIM.

ピョコ…

PEEK...

THAT'S HIM?

Let's just watch a little bit.

CALM DOWN, OKAY?

I'LL PUT A STOP TO THIS!

HOW DARE HE!

WHAT?!

OH!

HE'S TALKING TO YOUR SISTER!

Looking good, as usual!

THAT'S HIS GIRLFRIEND!

YEAH!

OH!

SOMEONE ELSE SHOWED UP...

OH, YUCK! NOT HER AGAIN !!

OH! ANOTHER GIRL...

WHOA! WHO'S THAT? HE'S A SUPER HOTTIE!

Like a movie star!

HEY... ANOTHER GUY JOINED THEM.

!!

GEEZ! LOOKS LIKE YOUR SISTER'S LEAVING...

YAP ギャー

ギャー YAP

ooo

WHOA... THE OTHER GUY PULLED A GUN!

ドン BLAM

ドン BLAM

ドン BLAM

!!

YIKES! SHE'S ATTACKING HIM!

WHUMP!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, HARU?

WELL, HELLO!

UH...

GOOD QUESTION.

ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD INTERFERE, HARU?

WELL, SINCE YOU ASK...

RURI, WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ICHIJO?

PERFECT TIMING!

OH, HI, RURI!

LONG TIME NO SEE!

YOU GO TO OUR SCHOOL NOW?

TO PUT IT SIMPLY...

YOU SEE...

HUH?!

YOU SHOULD REALLY STAY OUT OF THIS.

BUT LISTEN, HARU ...

...

SO HE *IS* A JERK AFTER ALL!

THAT PRETTY MUCH SUMS IT UP.

GRRRR ゴゴゴゴゴゴ

HE'S A CLUELESS MORON.

JUST LEAVE THE TWO OF THEM ALONE.

I'M TELLING YOU...

WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?

BUT MY SISTER..

I'M SO CONFUSED!

ISN'T RURI ON MY SISTER'S SIDE?

I DON'T GET IT.

カチャリン…

KCHING

!!

OH!

ゴットン…

KTUNK

HE DRINKS GREEN TEA LATTE, JUST LIKE ME!

OH, GREAT!

GO AHEAD.

YOU GOT HERE FIRST.

WELL... THANKS.

YOU CAN HAVE IT.

HERE.

Sold Out

SLURP

ゴッ…!!

ゴッ!!

ゴッ…!!

SLURP

SLURP

ZING

シュウウウ

THERE!

WOULDN'T WANT TO OWE YOU ANY-THING!

PSHH

ブッサ!!

ゴ

SLAM

バチィ!!

WELL, I KNOW YOU WEREN'T EXPECTING ME TO SHOW UP.

PLUS WE GOT IN TROUBLE WITH YOUR MOM...

HUH?

SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY.

I ALREADY KNOW YOU'RE A LYING DOG!

I DON'T TRUST YOU.

ANYWAY, YOU CAN DROP THE MR. NICE GUY ACT.

SHEESH! I DON'T SUGAR-COAT IT!

IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT...

I'M THE ONE WHO TRIED TO CARRY TOO MUCH.

...THAT STUFF GOT BROKEN.

COME TO THINK OF IT...

HOW DID YOU KNOW A BUNCH OF GUYS WERE HASSLING ME?

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU TRIED TO PASS YOURSELF OFF AS MY PRINCE CHARMING ...

WAIT A SEC!

...

WAIT A SECOND!

DON'T TELL ME...

WELL, UH...

I JUST MENTIONED THE GUY WHO RESCUED ME...

I NEVER TOLD YOU THAT.

WHERE CAN I FIND HIM!

PLEASE TELL ME WHO HE IS!

THE THING IS...

ER, LISTEN, HARU...

OH, GREAT.

YOU KNOW MY PRINCE CHARMING?!

A CLUE?

?

HMPH!

I'LL FIND HIM. AT LEAST I HAVE A CLUE!

WELL, SO WHAT?

SHF ゴソ SHF ゴソ...

OF COURSE YOU WON'T TELL ME.

YOU'RE MY ENEMY. I FORGOT.

OH, RIGHT.

WHAT THE...?

YIKES!

ドキッ!!

LUB DUB

HEY!!

YES!

ゴソ... SHF

SEE?

!!!

JING チャリン..

IT WAS ON THE FLOOR BY THE BED IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE.

AFTER MY PRINCE CHARMING RESCUED ME...

THAT PENDANT ...!!

WH-WH-WHERE DID YOU FIND THAT!!

WHERE?

PLEASE GIVE IT BACK!

OF COURSE I DO! IT'S MINE!!

IT'S REALLY IMPOR-TANT TO ME!

DO YOU RECOG-NIZE IT?

...AND SHE SAID THE BOY WHO BROUGHT ME IN PROBABLY DROPPED IT!

I ASKED THE NURSE...

NOW WHAT?

ARGH! SHE TOTALLY DOESN'T BELIEVE ME!

YOU'RE NOT MY PRINCE CHARMING! ENOUGH OF YOUR DISGUSTING LIES!

WHAT?!

BUT... IT'S TRUE!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS. NOT AGAIN!!

...WILL YOU GIVE THAT BACK TO ME?

IF IT TURNS OUT I REALLY AM YOUR PRINCE CHARMING...

FLINCH

I KNOW HOW WE CAN CLEAR THIS UP!

OKAY, HOLD ON!

I KNOW! ONODERA CAN TELL HER IT'S MY PENDANT!!

...WAS ACTUALLY TRUE...

IF THAT ...

SHAKKA SHAKKA

WELL, UH...

YEAH?

KHHHHRR

...MY PRINCE CHARM-ING?

...REAL-LY ARE...

IF YOU...

I'd be sooo morti-fied!!

WH... WHAAAT?!

I'D SMASH THIS PENDANT INTO ITTY-BITTY PIECES AND CHUCK IT INTO THE OCEAN!!

I WOULD BE SO ANGRY AT MYSELF...

HOW DO I GET IT BACK NOW?!

AND IF I PROVE IT, SHE'LL DESTROY MY PENDANT!

SHE DOESN'T BELIEVE I RESCUED HER...

AAA おおお

AAA おおお

WH-WHAT NOW?!

KNOWING HARU... SHE JUST MIGHT!!

WOULD SHE REALLY DO THAT?!

フシュー

KHHHRRR

YES. I'D LIKE TO GET IT BACK TO HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

HE'S PROBABLY EAGER TO GET IT BACK, RIGHT?

IF YOUR PRINCE CHARMING LOST THAT PENDANT ...

I HAVE AN IDEA!

OKAY, I KNOW!

FINE! GUESS I'LL HAVE TO TRY SOMETHING ELSE!

AN IDEA?

ガヤラ...

JING

OH, RIGHT! THAT'S A GOOD IDEA!

HE'S SURE TO CHECK FOR IT THERE. AND THEN HE'LL CONTACT YOU!

PUT IT IN THE LOST AND FOUND BOX WITH A NOTE WITH YOUR PHONE NUMBER ON IT!

THEN IT'S SIMPLE!

Lost and Found

GRRR

GRRRRR

GASP!

Lost and ound

YES! IT WORKED!

コソ SNEAK SNEAK コソ…

TOO BAD I HAD TO TRICK HER…

…BUT I HAD NO CHOICE!

REEEACH

Z

GRRR

GRRRRR

NO! I MEAN …

I CAN EXPLAIN!

DID YOU TRICK ME?

Y-YIKES! H-HARU ?!

WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?

ソカ.. TMP

ソカ.. TMP

HA HA HA HA

I JUST FIGURED I'D GET THIS BACK TO HIM..

SO, YOU KNOW …

I'M A FRIEND OF THIS PRINCE CHARMING OF YOURS!

LIKE I SAID BEFORE…

SO, YEAH!

HA HA…

HA HA…

GASP

!!

WHAT'S HE LIKE? WHAT DO YOU TWO TALK ABOUT?

WHAT AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES DOES HE DO?

WHAT CLASS IS HE IN? WHAT YEAR?

FLINCH FLINCH

ギク ギク

FLINCH

ギク

WHAT'S HIS NAME, THEN?

FL ギ

INCH クッ

GRIN ニコ…♡

YOU STINK!!

FORGET IT. I DON'T WANT YOUR HELP!!

I'LL FIND HIM MY-SELF !!

ズン

STOMP

ズン

STOMP

ギ… ギギ…

CREEAK- CREEAK

ギシ ギシ

KRAKKA KRAKKA

U U …

U U U WATCH OUT!!

NOW WHAT?

HUH?

NOW SHE'LL NEVER GIVE IT BACK TO ME!

GREAT

FUME プン

FUME プン

HEY!! LOOK OUT!!

HUH?

KRAK バキ

KRAK バキ

KRAK バキ KRAK

KRAK バキ KRAK

WHA...

VWOOSH

ドゴッ
KRASH
ガラガラ
CLATTER
ガシャーン…
CLATTER
WHUD
ガラガラ
CLATTER
ガラ…
KLINK
ゴー…
KLUNK
ガラ
WHUMP
HUH?
KA
JOLT
!
…
MMNN
…
OH, GOOD. YOU'RE AWAKE.
…
ICHIJO?
WHERE AM I?

WAIT A SEC...

DON'T TELL ME...

YOU'RE ACTU-ALLY...

YOU KNOW...

KA

FLINCH

DID YOU...

...RESCUE ME?

ER...

ER... HOW DID I GET HERE?

I REMEMBER THE SCAFFOLDING STARTED TO FALL ON ME...

AND SOME-BODY...

WHAT?

YOUR PRINCE CHARMING...

...SAVED YOU AGAIN.

...

ER, NO...

UH-OH!

IF SHE FINDS OUT IT WAS ME, SHE'LL SMASH MY PENDANT!

THIS IS TOP SECRET, BUT...

...THE FACT IS...

GREAT. IT'S ALL OR NOTHING NOW...

WELL, ACTUALLY... ...

SHAKKA SHAKKA

ガク ガク

THE SAME GUY?!

ガク ガク SHAKKA SHAKKA

BUT... HOW DO YOU KNOW?!

HE'D RATHER YOU DON'T SHOW IT TO ANYONE.

THIS PEN-DANT...

...IS AN IMPORTANT KEEPSAKE OF HIS.

BLAH

I'M HIS BEST FRIEND—THE ONLY ONE HE TRUSTS.

...AND HE HAS TO HIDE HIS TRUE IDENTITY!

...HE'S BEING HUNTED BY CRIMINALS...

HE DOESN'T WANT ME TO TELL YOU ABOUT HIM BECAUSE IT COULD PUT YOU IN DANGER TOO.

SHE'S NEVER GOING TO BUY THIS!

BOY, OH, BOY. WHAT A LAME STORY!

IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP HIM?

WHY, I HAD NO IDEA MY PRINCE CHARMING WAS IN TROUBLE!

SHE BOUGHT IT?!

WOW! IS THAT REALLY TRUE?

I'LL GIVE IT BACK TO HIM MYSELF!!

I don't trust you "

NO WAY!!

WELL, YOU COULD GIVE ME THAT PENDANT ...

HE SAVED ME AGAIN.

HE...

I'M SO HAPPY!

OH BOY... AT LEAST SHE STILL THINKS I KNOW THE GUY, BUT...

...NOW WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?

OH, I SEE...

BUT...

SKRCH

HM?

GUESS THERE'S TIME TO FIGURE IT OUT.

WELL...

HEY...

WHY'RE *YOU* ACTING EMBARRASSED, ICHIJO?

SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT...

UH...

NO, IT'S JUST THAT I... *UH...*

Your...
...undies?!

SOME-THING WRONG?

トゴ…

KTUNK

キーン

DIINNG

DONNNG

G'MORNING, HARU!

CHATTER

ガヤ

CHATTER

ガヤ

G'MORNING, FU!

ガヤ

CHATTER

BY THE WAY, THE FOREIGNER WHO SITS NEXT TO ME...

...IS ABSENT AGAIN TODAY.

NO...

I HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

WONDER WHERE SHE COULD BE...

Chapter 79: Peace of Mind

DON'T YOU AGREE...

...BLACK TIGER?

...QUITE CONDUCIVE ...

...TO OPPOR-TUNISM.

I FIND THIS COUNTRY ...

HUH?

PAULA...

I CAN'T HEAR...

WHAT ARE THEY SAYING?

PLEASE TAKE CARE OF ME.

SO...

I'VE DECIDED TO STAY.

GETTING A FAKE I.D. ISN'T CHEAP, Y'KNOW.

WELL, FINDING A PLACE IS A HASSLE.

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO U MEAN?

WAIT A SEC...

FWMP

ドサ...

I'M HERE JUST FOR FUN.

I'VE BEEN WORKING A LOT, SO I HAVE A LOT OF VACATION DAYS SAVED UP.

ARE YOU ON ASSIGN-MENT HERE OR WHAT?

Explain yourself!

I MEAN, I STILL DON'T GET WHY YOU'RE GOING TO OUR SCHOOL!

THAT'S NOT THE POINT!

NO, THAT'S NOT IT...

JUST KIDDING. PLEASE LET ME STAY.

THEN YOU CAN'T STAY HERE.

...WATCH YOUR BACK WHEN YOU'RE SLEEPING!

SO FROM NOW ON, IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU...

MORE IMPORTANTLY ...

I STILL INTEND TO BEAT YOU ONE OF THESE DAYS.

SHE DOESN'T SUSPECT A THING!

TEE-HEE! SHE BOUGHT IT!

Sheesh...

ROMANCE ISN'T BLACK TIGER'S STRONG SUIT.

LEFT ON HER OWN, SHE'D PROBABLY NEVER MAKE A MOVE!

Guess I'd better make you a bed.

THAT GUY...

RAKU ICHIJO, OR WHATEVER HIS NAME IS...

CLASS IS ABOUT TO START. AREN'T YOU GOING?

BY THE WAY, PAULA...

THAT'S WHY SHE NEEDS MY HELP!

YES...

YOU REALLY NEED ME AROUND, BLACK TIGER!

Hee hee hee

HUH?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

HUH? RAKU ICHIJO?

TOK トン...

...HOW'RE THINGS WITH THAT YAKUZA KID, THE MISTRESS'S BOYFRIEND?

UH... NEVER MIND THAT. MORE IMPORTANTLY...

WHA... WHA... WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER, GIRL!

YOU HAVEN'T YET? OH, HONESTLY!

BLURF!

HAVE YOU ASKED HIM OUT YET?

...RAKU ICHIJO SAID YOU WERE CUTE, BLACK TIGER.

COME TO THINK OF IT, THE OTHER DAY...

KRASH

FWAM

BASH

WELL, YOU LIKE HIM, DON'T YOU?

It's so obvious.

HOLD ON... WHY WOULD I DO A THING LIKE THAT?

YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING!

WHAT?!

THAT WIMPY, STUPID MORON?

THAT PATHETIC WEAKLING?

And you're a hit-man?

WOW, YOU'RE A TERRIBLE LIAR!

JUST KIDDING.

HE DID?

WELL, YOU CAN ALWAYS BE HIS CONCUBINE!

KA-FLOP

SHEESH! WHAT'S HOLDING YOU BACK?

I don't get it!

HE'S THE MIS-TRESS'S BOY-FRIEND!

I TOLD YOU!

H-HIS CONCU-BINE?!

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

EVERY GANG BOSS HAS A FEW CONCUBINES, RIGHT?

WELL, YEAH, BUT...!!

HEY, BABY.

HONEY'S AWAY TONIGHT. IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US.

W-WE MUSTN'T!

IF THE MIS-TRESS FINDS OUT...!!

FLUSTER

ホワン

YOU WANT ME...

...TO BE RAKU ICHIJO'S CONCUBINE?!

FLUSTER

ホワン...

AAAUGH!

あああああ

私は何を考えて!!

WHAT AM I THINKING?!

SEE?

THE PERFECT SOLUTION!

NO WAY!!

SHE'D NEVER FORGIVE ME!!

DON'T WORRY. YOU'RE HER FAVORITE!

AND I'M SURE RAKU ICHIJO WOULD BE THRILLED!

FIRST AND FOREMOST ...

NO. I COULD NEVER DO THAT.

DON'T...

...BE...

...RIDICU-LOUS!! YOU'VE GOT THE MOST POWER-FUL WEAPONS A GIRL CAN HAVE!!

BOING

YEEKS!!

WHAT GUY...

...IN HIS RIGHT MIND...

...WOULD FALL FOR A TOMBOY LIKE ME?

IN THE BOOB DEPARTMENT, YOU'VE GOT THE MISTRESS TOTALLY CREAMED!!

REALLY ?!

Tsugumi

Mistress

Wealth

Beauty

Charm

Boobs

KA-POW! ギュン!!

SPLAT!!

COMPARED TO THE MISTRESS, THESE ARE YOUR FEMALE ASSETS!!

SEE HERE!!

Tsugumi

Mistress

Wealth

Beauty

Charm

HUH?

ガッ!! SHOOP

AAAAGH!

"ALL MEN REALLY CARE ABOUT IS A GIRL'S...

REMEMBER WHAT BIG SISTER JESSICA SAID?

NO GUY COULD RESIST THOSE KNOCKERS!

WHAT ON EARTH...

P.E. Equipment

...IS PAULA THINKING?

WHA ...?!

W-WAIT A MINUTE!

WE'LL NAB HIM, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

IN ANY CASE ...

I'M ON YOUR SIDE.

KCHAK ガラ...

HMM?

SURE HOPE SHE DOESN'T PULL ANY CRAZY TRICKS.

ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO TIDY UP IN HERE TOO?

YEAH... I GOT A MESSAGE THE TEACHER WANTED ME TO...

PHWEET! ピピ...!

RAKU ICHIJO!

UGH!

OH, HEY! IT'S YOU, TSUGUMI!

?!

KUHIK

SLAM

KCHAK

OH NO!

WH-WHAT WAS THAT?

SHE'S GOING TO OUR SCHOOL?!

WHAT?! SHE'S BACK IN JAPAN?!

SO YOU HAVEN'T RUN ACROSS HER YET.

AH...

...THIS WAS PAULA'S HANDI-WORK.

I'M GUES-SING...

PAULA WHO?

HUH?

BAM

BAM

GEEZ! WHO'D DO SUCH A THING?

SHOOT... IT WON'T OPEN...

STAND BACK.

ANYWAY, I'LL BREAK DOWN THESE DOORS.

WHAT?! NO, STOP!!

WELL, BECAUSE... I MEAN...

I HAVE NO IDEA EITHER!!

?

BUT WHY WOULD SHE PULL SOMETHING LIKE THIS?

I DIDN'T EXPECT HER TO MAKE A MOVE SO SOON!

SHEESH! HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO INATTENTIVE!

Heeey!

Heeey! Can anybody hear me?

THAT'S WHAT ALWAYS GETS YOU IN TROUBLE!

YOU CAN'T JUST GO AROUND TRASHING SCHOOL PROPERTY!

GAH!

C'MERE, BABY!

IT'S GETTING CHILLY. I'LL KEEP YOU WARM.

BRR... I GUESS SO...

EVERYONE'S PROBABLY GONE HOME BY NOW. WE COULD BE STUCK IN HERE UNTIL MORNING.

SHOOT.

UNTIL... MORNING ?!

WAAAAUGH

わおおおおおお

WINDOWS ARE NO GOOD EITHER.

HMM ...

They have bars.

W-WAIT, WHAT AM I THINK-ING?! GAH!!

SHAKKA SHAKKA

BLOOP BLOOP ホワン

NOOO!

EEEK! I CAN'T STAY LOCKED IN THIS TINY ROOM WITH HIM UNTIL MORNING!

WE JUST HAVE TO WAIT.

...AT SOME POINT A GUARD WILL COME TO CHECK THIS PLACE.

WELL, NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...

RIGHT...

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO FILL THE SILENCE...

GEEZ. I FEEL SO NERVOUS, ALONE WITH HIM IN HERE.

LUB DUB ドキ

LUB DUB ドキ

LUB DUB ドキ

ER... CARE TO TALK A LITTLE?

THERE'S NOTHING ELSE TO DO...

I'm bored.

OH...

UH... SURE.

PHEW!

AND I DEFINITELY DON'T HAVE A CRUSH ON HIM!!

IT'S NOT LIKE I CARE ABOUT HIM OR ANYTHING!

HEY, WHY SHOULD I BE NERVOUS WITH THIS DORK, ANYWAY?!

HUH?

?!

ガン SHAKKA

ガン SHAKKA

HUH ?!

ERK! ドキッ!

HEY, TSUGUMI...

...

...

WELL...

SO, WHAT'S PAULA LIKE, ANYWAY?

I DON'T REALLY KNOW HER YET...

SINCE THE FIRST TIME WE TEAMED UP, WE'VE WORKED TOGETHER A FAIR BIT.

WE'VE EVEN LIVED TOGETHER BEFORE.

SHE'S KINDA LIKE ME IN A LOT OF WAYS.

SHE DOESN'T HAVE PARENTS OR ANY FAMILY...

BASICALLY, SHE WAS RAISED BY THE MAFIA.

SHE WAS ALWAYS CHALLENGING ME TO CONTESTS.

And getting us into trouble.

I CAN SEE THAT.

CHK

...PAULA'S THE PERSON WHO ALWAYS PUSHED ME TO DO BETTER.

SHE'S DEDI-CATED...

...AND A HARD WORK-ER.

THIS MIGHT SURPRISE YOU, BUT...

OH?

...I WORRY ABOUT HER.

THAT'S ALSO WHY...

BUT FOR ME...

COMING TO JAPAN AND BEING ASSIGNED TO PROTECT THE MISTRESS...

JUST SPENDING SO MUCH TIME WITH HER, I'VE BEEN AT PEACE.

SHE'S A LOT LIKE I USED TO BE.

ALWAYS STRIVING TO DO BETTER... NEVER ABLE TO RELAX.

SHE'S EXCELLENT AT WHAT SHE DOES, AND SHE'S VERY PROUD.

EVEN AMONG OUR PEERS, SHE WAS KIND OF AN OUTSIDER.

PAULA SAYS I'VE LOST MY EDGE...

...BUT MEETING ONODERA AND MIYAMOTO IN JAPAN...

...AND GETTING TO KNOW THEM...

...HAS REALLY BEEN GREAT FOR ME.

I'VE LEARNED HOW IT FEELS TO BE HAPPY.

I CERTAINLY RESPECT PAULA'S DRIVE...

...BUT IT WOULD BE GREAT IF SHE COULD...

...EXPERIENCE PEACE OF MIND TOO.

!!..,...!! JOLT

WHY AM I TELLING YOU ALL THIS?!

HEY!!

...AND SHE HOPED YOU COULD LEARN TO RELAX MORE.

...SHE SAID YOU WERE ALWAYS SO SERIOUS...

WHEN YOU FIRST CAME TO JAPAN...

..LIKE WHAT HONEY SAID TOO.

THAT SOUNDS A LOT...

SHOOP

ナ!!!!..!!

...

...FELT THAT WAY ABOUT ME?

THE MISTRESS ...

I THINK SHE JUST WANTED YOU TO LEARN TO HAVE FUN!

I THINK SHE FELT THE SAME WAY YOU DO.

REMEMBER HOW SHE KEPT DRAGGING YOU AROUND, TAKING YOU SHOPPING AND STUFF?

YOU'VE REALLY CHANGED A LOT, TSUGUMI!

AND YOU KNOW...

HUH?!

...HE NOTICED ALL THAT.

I CAN'T BELIEVE...

IT'S HARD TO EXPRESS, BUT...

OH, I KNOW!

I GUESS... YOU'VE SOFTENED, YOU KNOW?

YOU'VE GOT A TOTALLY DIFFERENT VIBE THAN YOU DID AT FIRST.

YOU REALLY HAVE.

I...I HAVE?

You really think so?

BLUSH

WHAT ?!

...YOU'VE GOTTEN CUTER!

IN A WORD...

GRIN

JOLT

WH-WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

I-I'M NOT CUTE!!

SNAG

YOU OKAY?

OH! LOOKS LIKE YOU GOT CAUGHT ON THIS NAIL. *That's dangerous!*

RRR-RRR RIP

WHAT ?!

HUH?!

JUST A SEC.

HERE, I'LL GIVE YOU MY SHIRT...

SHOOT.

WHY DO I GET SO FLUSTERED...

KCHAK

...BY THE THINGS HE SAYS?

I SAW THE LIGHT ON...

HEY... IS THERE SOMEBODY HERE?

KCHAK

ナ!!

ラ...

IT'S NOT WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE!!

AAALIGH!! WAIT, ONODERA!! WAIT!!

RATTLE RATTLE

ガチャガチャ

ガチャ

RATTLE

OH NO! IT'S LOCKED AGAIN?!

WE CAN EX-PLAIN!

PLEASE WAIT, ONO-DERA !!

KCHIK!

SLAM!!

NOT BAD, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!

TEE-HEE!

NEXT TIME, I'LL PULL OUT THE BIG GUNS!

LICK

JUST YOU WAIT, BLACK TIGER!

Paula's Effort
Also, XX with XX, and if you XX and XX, they'll be like putty in your hands...
if you use your XX to XX their XX, they go crazy.
An-other trick with men...
Hmm, let's see...
Right. Yep.
Skrit
Skrit
Skrit
Skrit

MWA HA HA!

THE PERFECT PLAN!

YES!

THIS SUNDAY... RAKU ICHIJO WILL BE YOURS!

ピロピロ... BOOP BEEP

JUST WAIT, BLACK TIGER!

OH, HEY! YOU'RE PAULA, RIGHT?

G'MORNING! YOU'RE HERE TODAY!

REMEMBER ME? I SIT NEXT TO YOU. I...

Chapter 80: Suspension Bridge

HEY!

SCHOOL'S ABOUT TO START!!

WAIT!

ガ"ク…

CLATTER

LATER. SORRY. I DON'T REMEMBER YOU.

HUH?!

LATER?

...

SO...

I NEED TO SPEAK WITH YOU BOTH ABOUT THE MISTRESS. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT. MEET ME AT THE SPOT INDICATED ON THE MAP.

FWSH

ガサ

FWSH

ガサ..

WHAT'S GOING ON, ANYWAY?

WHAT'RE WE DOING OUT HERE IN THE MOUNTAINS AGAIN?

ガ"!!
STUMBLE
!
...?
NOT AGAIN. IS THIS ANOTHER OF PAULA'S SCHEMES...
...TO GET ME ALONE WITH HIM?!
Like the sports supplies thing the other day...
SHE'S DEFINITELY UP TO SOMETHING AGAIN.
IF IT PERTAINS TO THE MISTRESS, WE HAVE TO TAKE IT SERIOUSLY!
EVEN SO...
WELL...
FWSH
カ"サ...
LOOKS LIKE THIS IS THE PATH...
DA-DA-DUM!...
ゴ...

...THERE'S A PHENOMENON CALLED "THE SUSPENSION BRIDGE EFFECT."

ACCORDING TO MY RESEARCH...

WE'RE SUPPOSED TO CROSS THIS THING?!

OH, GREAT. FOR REAL?!

KREAK

KREAK

ギシ

ギシ

VWHOO

ヒュオオ

オオォー

RUSTLE

ガサ・・

MWA HA HA!

SUR-PRISED, BLACK TIGER?

HA! HE'S A SITTING DUCK!!

...CAUSING THE SUBJECTS TO FALL IN LOVE!!

Wow!

WHEN A MAN AND WOMAN ARE PLACED IN A DANGEROUS SITUATION, THE AROUSAL TRIGGERED BY ADRENALINE IS OFTEN MISINTERPRETED AS ROMANTIC ATTRACTION...

THE SUSPEN-SION BRIDGE EFFECT!!

WHAT'S PAULA THINKING?!

THIS THING IS FALLING APART! AND IT'S SWAYING IN THE WIND!!

YIKES! SCARY!

VWHOOO

ヒュオオ

オオォー

IT'S THE PERFECT PLAN!

KREAK

ギシ・・・

WEAK WITH FEAR, RAKU ICHIJO FALLS HEAD OVER HEELS FOR THE CALM AND COLLECTED BLACK TIGER!

HA HA HA HA HA

HEY, TSUGUMI!

BUT RAKU ICHIJO, ON THE OTHER HAND...

EVEN IF IT BREAKS, I'LL BE FINE.

WE'RE NOT THAT HIGH UP.

HMM...

SURE...I KNOW YOU'RE PROBABLY FINE...

I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP! PUH-LEASE!!

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH!!

Worry about yourself!

THIS IS DANGER-OUS.

HERE. TAKE MY HAND.

ACTING TOUGH...

THERE HE GOES AGAIN!

GAH!

SHPく"っ…!

SO JUST HUMOR ME.

BUT I CAN'T HELP WORRYING, OKAY?

...BUT THIS IS WORKING OUT NICELY!

NOT EXACTLY THE SCENARIO I WAS IMAGINING...

HA HA!

ポリ MUNCH

ポリ MUNCH

!

ワ

WORMP

ラァ...

??

UH, TSUGUMI? YOU OKAY?

ARE YOU SCARED? YOUR HAND FEELS SUPER HOT...

YOU OKAY, TSUGUMI ?

JUST A LITTLE FURTHER.

ギッ...

KREEAK..

WHAT'S THE MATTER?! YOU OKAY?!

H-HEY! TSUGUMI ?!

WHAT DO YOU... MEAN?

H... HUH?

to

DAAAZE..

MAYBE I'M SICK...

COME TO THINK OF IT, I'VE BEEN HAVING HOT AND COLD SPELLS AND FEELING TIRED SINCE THIS MORNING...

I...I DO?

YOU DIDN'T NOTICE?!

YOU'VE GOT A REALLY HIGH FEVER!! WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?!

YEE-OWCH!

ピト…

TAK

HUH? A... FEVER...?

BLACK TIGER ...?

...?

WE'VE GOT TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE!!

YOU'RE BURNING UP!

I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO HER!!

YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS, YOU...

WHAT'VE YOU DONE TO BLACK TIGER?!

KCHNK

KCHAK

KCHING

PAULA?!

WHAT'S WRONG ??

BLACK TIGER?!

Where'd you come from?

OH NO! BLACK TIGER!!

...BUT WE SHOULD GET HER TO A DOCTOR RIGHT AWAY.

Hahh...

SHE'S SICK?!

YEAH...

I MEAN, I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT'S WRONG...

No Signal

Duh. Besides, how's an ambulance going to get out here?!

UH, PAULA ...?

I'LL CALL AN AMBU-LANCE!!

I KNOW!

YOU STAY WITH TSUGUMI.

I'LL GO DOWN TO THE WATER AND GET THIS HAND-KERCHIEF WET.

W-W-W-W-WHAT'LL I DO?!

OH NO!!

LOOK, JUST CALM DOWN, OKAY?

P...

PAULA... IS THAT YOU?

IT'S ALL MY FAULT, BLACK TIGER...

IT'S ALL MY FAULT!!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING!

Hahh...

HP...

SHP

I JUST NEED...

...A LITTLE REST...

I...I'M FINE. DON'T... WORRY.

BLACK TIGER!! ARE YOU OKAY?!

NGH...

I'VE GOT TO GET HER TO A HOSPITAL!!

THIS IS TERRIBLE!

OH NO! SHE'S SUPER HOT!!

SHFF ズ!!

YEEK!

FWMP ドシャ!!

OH, BLACK TIGER! THIS IS TERRIBLE!

AND IT'S MY FAULT!

WHAT'LL I DO?

WHAT'LL I DO?!

Hahh...

Ouch...

I'VE GOT TO DO SOME-THING!!

SHUP

...

I...

ふ SHOOP

ぉっ

ズル…

VSH...

?!

I HAVE TO...

...

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO WAIT!

HAHH

ハァ…

HAHH

ハァ…

I SAW YOU JUST NOW.

NO YOU CAN'T.

I CAN TAKE CARE OF BLACK TIGER!!

WHAT'D YOU DO THAT FOR?!

HMPH!

I'VE NEVER...

...SEEN HER LIKE THIS!

...

BUT...

Up you go...

IT'S OKAY TO LET OTHER PEOPLE HELP YOU.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING YOURSELF, YOU KNOW.

For real? But wait... I've seen...

IT'S ALL MY FAULT!!

OH NO...

THAT CAN'T BE TRUE. SHE GETS SICK OR INJURED LIKE ANYONE ELSE, RIGHT?

OH, COME ON.

NO! NEVER!

TOTAL DENIAL!

I'VE NEVER SEEN BLACK TIGER HELPLESS BEFORE!

Waaah boo hoo hoo

...IF BLACK TIGER DIES?!

SOB

WHAT'LL I DO...

SOB

BESIDES, SHE WON'T DIE. SHE JUST HAS A COLD.

...BUT SHE'S REALLY JUST A KID AFTER ALL.

SHE ALWAYS ACTS SO GROWN UP...

HEY.

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.

WELL, YOU ARE A KID!!

DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A KID!!

GRRR!!

キー!!

WE'LL TAKE CARE OF HER.

DON'T CRY.

PAT

WELL, IT'S HOW WE DO THINGS AROUND HERE!

THAT'S NOT HOW WE DO THINGS IN THE MOB!

I DON'T GET IT.

IT'S OKAY TO ASK FOR HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT.

YOU SHOULD LEARN TO TRUST OTHER PEOPLE A LITTLE.

WELL, AT LEAST YOU'RE FEELING BETTER...

IT'S JAPAN'S FAULT SHE GOT LIKE THIS!!

NO WONDER BLACK TIGER'S GETTING SOFT!

THAT'S JAPANESE CULTURE ?!

YOU'RE JUST MAKING YOURSELVES VULNERABLE!!

PLEASE!

WHAT IF SOMEONE'S SETTING A TRAP FOR YOU?

A trap ?!

...

WHA...

I BET SHE FEELS SAFE ENOUGH TO LET HERSELF BE WEAK.

...BECAUSE YOU'RE HERE.

BUT...

I BET TSUGUMI GOT SICK...

...TSUGUMI DOESN'T SEEM TO THINK IT'S A BAD THING.

BUT YOU KNOW...

TSUGUMI'S DEFINITELY CHANGED SINCE SHE'S BEEN IN JAPAN...

MAYBE...

...IT WOULDN'T HURT YOU TO GET TO KNOW JAPAN TOO.

THE ROAD!!

OH, GOOD!

BLACK TIGER...

キキッ
SKREE
..!!
THAT GIRL LOOKS REALLY SICK...
WE'RE NOT LIKELY TO FIND A CAB OUT HERE...
NOW WHAT?
We'll never make it on foot...
ARE YOU GUYS OKAY?
OH!
OH, HEY!
OH NO! WE'D BETTER GET HER TO A DOCTOR!!
THANK GOD YOU'RE HERE! YOU SEE...THIS HAP-PENED... THEN THAT...
I JUST FINISHED A DELIVERY ...
Go ahead and put her in the cart!
HARU? WHERE'D YOU COME FROM ??
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
RAKU ICHIJO ?!

...A FRIEND OF BLACK TIGER'S?

Black what?

HUH?

NO... I MEAN, I'VE SEEN HER AROUND...

DO YOU TWO KNOW EACH OTHER?!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?!

ARE YOU...

PAULA ?!

WHY?

??

WHY WOULD YOU HELP US?

...

WELL THEN...

IS THAT SO WRONG?

I DON'T KNOW.

ZZZ スー…

CHIRP CHIRP ｲﾅｲ…

TWEET ｲｭﾝ…

キーン DING

コーン DOOONG

キーン…ン

DIIIING

コーン…ン

DOOONG

ガヤ

YAP

ガヤ

YAP

CHATTER

ガヤ

CHATTER

ガヤ

AT LEAST THE DOCTOR SAID IT WAS JUST A COLD!

IS SHE OKAY NOW?

YOUR FRIEND SURE WAS SICK YESTER-DAY.

YOU'RE HERE AGAIN TODAY!

G'MORNING, PAULA!

IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE FRIENDS ALL OF A SUDDEN NOW.

...LEAVING ME ALONE?

HUH?

DO YOU MIND...

IF YOU NEED ANY HELP, FEEL FREE TO ASK!

IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME, RIGHT?

ARE YOU ACTUALLY STAYING FOR CLASS TODAY?

HMPH!

WELL, SHEESH!

ONE STEP AT A TIME...

THIS IS ENOUGH FOR TODAY.

ヘッキシ!! AH-CHOO!!

?

Paula's Favorite
Magazine

Kosmo

IT'S REALLY HAPPEN-ING!

IT'S FINALLY REALLY HAPPEN-ING!

OH, RAKU DEAR-EST!!

FWOOSH!

PUH-LEASE! C'MON, EVERYBODY! SEE FOR YOUR-SELVES!

WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT, MARIKA TACHI-BANA?!

UH, DON'T LOOK AT ME!

WHAT? WHAT'S GOING ON?

WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING, ICHIJO?

IT'S HAPPEN-ING!

YOU-KNOW-WHAT IS HAPPEN-ING!

WHAT'S UP, TACHI-BANA? WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?

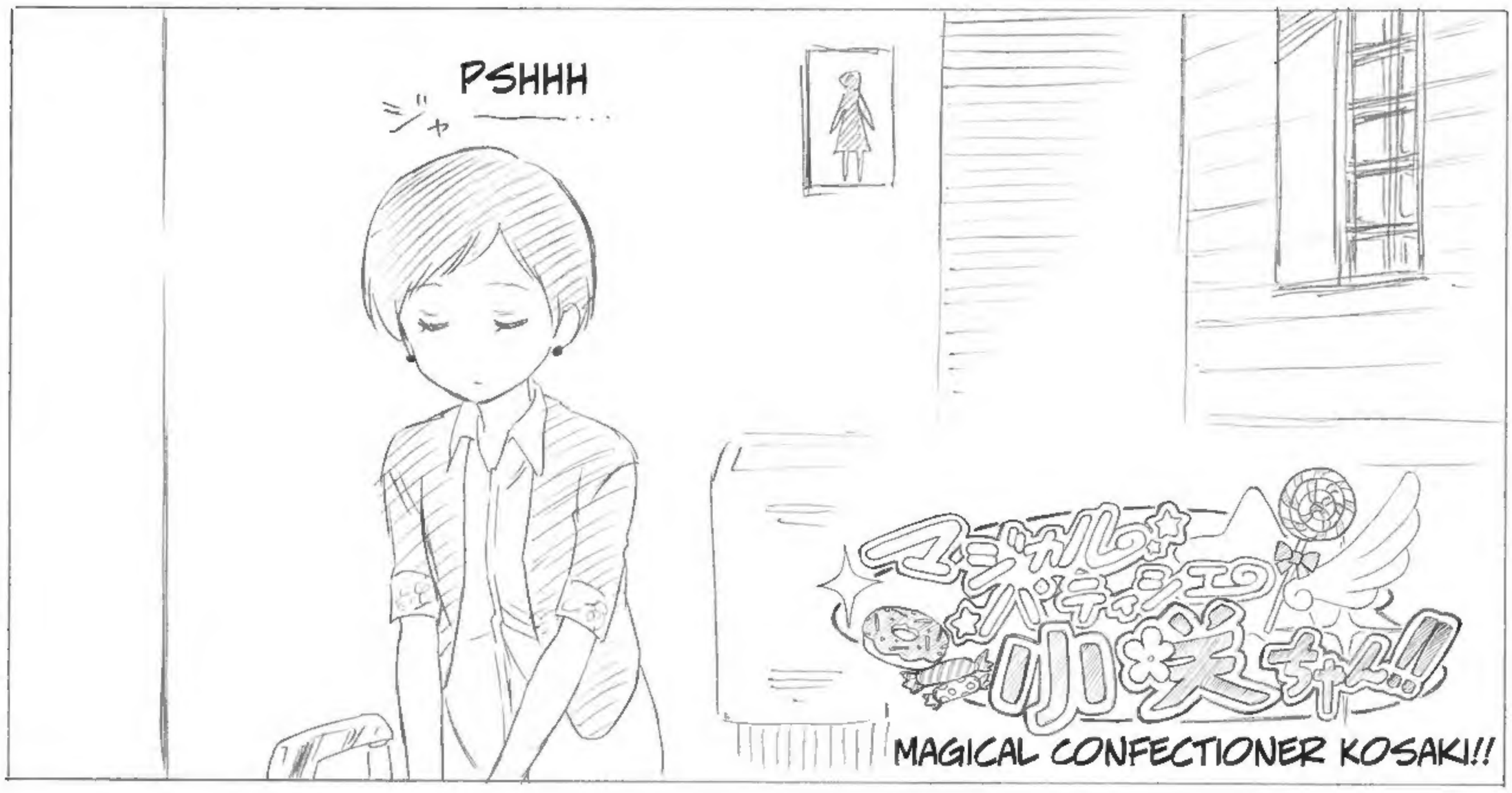
THERE! SEE?

WE'RE BECOMING AN
ANIME TV SERIES!!

A MESSAGE FROM NAOSHI KOMI!

It's finally happening! Having something I wrote become an anime has been a dream of mine since I was a kid. I'm so excited I can barely contain myself. I can't wait!

☆ Bonus Comic!! ☆


PSHHH
ミニマル パティシエ 小雀ちゃん!!
MAGICAL CONFECTIONER KOSAKI!!

TAKA TAK!
タタッ!!

VOOSH!
?!!
POOF!!
?!

Yeah, but I don't want everyone to see me naked!

You're wasting valuable time!

You need to quit running to the bathroom every time you transform.

Everything!

It's embrassing, okay?

Who cares?

Whatcha got to lose?

Trans-form, Kosaki!

Okay, let's try it out!

Okay!

TRANS 変 FORMATION!! 身!! !! 力!! POOF!!

Well, how 'bout this?

If you wrap a cloth around your whole body, you can transform anytime, anywhere!

Oh! I get it!

FWOOM!!

Tee hee hee...

Eek!

Huh?!

Who are you?!

You really think you can cut it as a magical girl acting like that?

Pathetic, Magical Confectioner!

To be continued...

The fact that we've already done this twice is bad enough!! I have to keep doing this?!
What?! To be continued?!